

in Bengal in August 1897—concluded.

[illegible]

**SUMMARY OF THE METEOROLOGICAL AND RAINFALL OBSERVATIONS
TAKEN IN BENGAL, AND OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS
TAKEN IN ASSAM, FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 1897.**

WEATHER during August was of an unusually uniform character. There were no disturbances either over the Bay or the province, and no marked break in the rains. Cloudy, showery weather continued in all districts, but not entirely without variation, there being two periods of maximum and two of minimum falls, during the latter of which only scattered showers fell in places. The two former periods occurred about the beginning and middle of the month, the two latter between the 8th and 14th and towards the end of the month.

During the first and third weeks, when rainfall was more plentiful, there was comparatively low pressure over the north of the province. The steep pressure gradient, which at the same time prevailed over the Bay, caused a strongish monsoon, and, in consequence, a free supply of moist air was moving over the land. The precipitation was partly maintained by the irregular pressure changes which occurred from day to day, and gave rise to the variations in the wind circulation, to which during settled weather rainfall is largely due.

When rainfall was more scanty during the second and fourth weeks, the area of lowest pressure was transferred southwards—in the first case to Orissa and in the second to the Circars. During these weeks a more steady easterly current prevailed over the province, and the monsoon being deflected westward across the north of the Bay, conditions were less favourable for rainfall at inland stations. But, as stated above, rainfall only partially ceased, and there were very few days on which it was not recorded at more than half the number of registering stations.

On two occasions pressure changes were rather larger than at other times, and there were then indications of the existence and movement of very shallow depressions. The first probably crossed the north of the Bay, but did not show as a distinct depression till it was over Orissa on the 7th, when there was a defect in pressure of more than $\cdot 1$ inch on the west coast of the Bay as far south as Masulipatam. The rise of pressure, which was then general over Bengal, forced the area of lowest pressure westward or south-westward, and led to the commencement of the first period of lighter rainfall. The second began on the 17th with a moderate fall of pressure in the south of Burma and a brisk rise in Bihar. It was very indistinct during the two following days, but it moved north-westward, across the north of the Bay into Bengal, and became better defined in Bihar on the 19th, when, after a brisk fall of pressure, there was defect of about $\cdot 05$ inch. Though these changes never led to any great variation from the normal, still the excess in the south of the Bay and defect in the north gave rise to rather steep gradients over the Bay and the south of the province with conditions very favourable for rainfall. Though this very shallow depression did not cause the renewal of general rain, it was the main cause of the continuance of the rainfall till after the end of the third week, and the heaviest falls of the month were during its passage across Bengal and Bihar, especially the latter, on the 19th.

On the 23rd pressure again began to fall in the south of Burma. The fall then became general over the whole area, and afterwards was confined to the Madras coast and the south-west of the Bay, with the result that a considerable defect accumulated over that area. The pressure gradient became less steep, the monsoon current was weaker over the province, and the second period of light rainfall began, continuing till the end of the month.

At the beginning of the month pressure was between $\cdot 1$ and $\cdot 15$ inch below the normal over the province, defect diminishing towards the south of the Bay when it was very small. The consequent steep gradient gave winds over the Bay somewhat above the average strength. As at the same time winds were westerly in Bihar and Chota Nagpur, conditions were favourable for rain over the province, especially in the eastern districts, where falls of between 2 and 4 inches were not unfrequent. Except that defect became smaller over Bengal without much change in the general distribution, the general weather conditions remained much the same as on the 1st, till the 5th, when a brisk fall of pressure set in over the north of the Bay continuing more slowly on the 6th, when readings were lowest in Orissa. The irregular, and in places rapid, rise on the 7th led to a very shallow depression over Orissa and a more regular circulation of easterly winds over the province. The shallow depression moved off to the west, but the distribution retained almost the same features till the 15th, when a rapid rise of pressure over the north of the Bay caused a displacement of the area of lowest pressure from Orissa to the west of Bihar. It was during these days, from the 7th to the 15th, that rainfall was lighter and more scattered than during the first few days of the month. With the area of lowest pressure in Bihar, the moist current was more towards the north and rainfall again became general, though not usually heavy, over the whole province.

The shallow depression which began on the 17th in the south of Burma and moved quickly north-westward reaching Bihar on the 19th, led to well marked monsoon conditions over the whole province for some days, with general rainfall which was heaviest in East and North Bengal on the 21st and 22nd, when falls of from 2 to 4 inches occurred. The brisk fall of pressure prevailing during the passage of the depression was followed by a brisk rise on the 20th, but immediately afterwards the fall of pressure began in Burma, and extending westwards across the south of the Bay caused the low pressure in the south-west during the last week of the month. This change was in process between the 23rd and 25th, when the fall in the south of the Circars was more than $\cdot 1$ inch, and defect in the

north of Madras was about 14 inch. This arrangement was better defined on the 26th, when a brisk rise over Bengal and a moderate fall in the extreme south-west of the Bay resulted in readings being lowest over the Circars. On the 27th lowest pressure was still further south, after which the recovery began owing to a rise in the south-west of the Bay and a fall in the north of the province. But the main features of the distribution remained till the end of the month, and were shown by the very uniform readings over the west of the province and the west of the Bay. From the 23rd till the end of the month winds remained easterly over the province and south or south-east over the north of the Bay, and the consequent westerly deflection of the monsoon current was attended by lighter rainfall at inland stations, as during the previous partial break, however, light showers were of almost daily occurrence over a great part of the province.

Owing to the occurrence of only the faintest possible depression, conditions were unusually settled over the Bay, there being no case of stormy or even squally weather.

Pressure.—Underwent no large changes, but ones of moderate amount were more frequent than usual. The area of lowest pressure oscillated between the south-west and north of the province, and towards the end of the month was displaced further south than is usual in August. As a period of deficient readings was followed by one with a similar excess, the means for the whole month are practically normal over the whole province, only a few of the western stations having a difference of more than .01 inch.

Temperature.—During the first and third weeks, when cloudy weather with general rain prevailed, temperature was below the normal, and during the second and fourth weeks, when the rainfall was more partial, there was generally excess; but the difference from the normal was rarely more than 2°. In consequence, the means for the month are very nearly normal, the difference for maximum readings varying from excess of half a degree in the north-east to defect of similar amount in the south-west, and there being for minimum readings a general small excess. Mean temperature for the large divisions differs from the normal by not more than a fifth of a degree, except in North Bengal.

Rainfall.—Owing to the general favourable conditions and the absence of cyclonic storms, the distribution has been unusually uniform over the whole province. In East Bengal there fell on an average 3.44 inches more than the normal, but in all the other divisions the difference from the normal was less than 1 inch. In South-West Bengal there was excess of about 1 inch, and elsewhere defect varying from a third of an inch in North Bengal and Bihar, to about 1 inch in Chota Nagpur.

The falls as reported from the various stations are more regular than usual, but there are still variations, especially in Bihar and North Bengal. Over the greater part of North Bihar there has been a deficient fall, the defect being less than 5 inches, except in the greater part of Champaran and part of Muzaffarpur, where defect is between 5 and 7 inches. In North Bengal there has been a similar arrangement, excess in the south and defect elsewhere, increasing towards the north and generally between 5 and 10 inches in Jalpaiguri and Cooch Bihar. The difference from the normal is generally small in other parts, especially where there is a deficiency and over the greater part of Eastern and Central Bengal there is a small to moderate excess above 5 inches at only a few scattered stations.

The comparison of the actual rainfall in the various large divisions of the province with the normal is most accurately and conveniently shown in the form of a percentage. The figures representing the rainfall for the month, calculated in this way, are included in the table below under the heading of August. This table really gives a condensed summary of the rainfall statistics of the present year up to date for each meteorological division, the first eight columns giving the actual average rainfalls in each division in each month expressed as a percentage of the normal, while the ninth column gives the total rainfall for the first eight months expressed as a percentage of the normal rainfall for that period:—

METEOROLOGICAL DIVISIONS.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Actual rainfall of first eight months of 1897 expressed as a percentage of the normal fall for the period.
South-West Bengal ...	3	64	149	107	77	115	84	108	98
North Bengal ...	17	34	210	63	105	64	79	98	84
East Bengal ...	7	33	112	44	83	93	76	122	90
Bihar ...	23	111	273	170	51	140	82	97	99
Orissa ...	3	329	316	91	38	88	111	96	103
Chota Nagpur ...	60	184	197	143	53	85	85	93	90

The following table gives full data for comparison of the actual and normal rainfall of the month of August in all districts of the province. The figures are derived from the average and actual rainfall of the rain-recording stations in each district, due allowance or weight being made for the area which each station represents. This gives a more accurate average than the arithmetical means given in the monthly meteorological tables. The first column gives the normal or average district rainfall as determined from the rainfall observations of the past 25 years: the second column gives the actual district rainfall as determined from the weighted actual rainfalls of the month at the reporting stations in each district: the third column expresses the ratio of the actual district rainfall of the past month to the normal

rainfall as a percentage: the fourth column states as a percentage how much the district rainfall of the month varied from the normal:—

Percentage Table for August 1897.

DIVISION.	DISTRICT.	Normal district rainfall for August.	Actual district rainfall for August 1897.	Percentage of actual to normal rainfall.	Percentage excess (+), defect (—).
South-West Bengal	Burdwan	11.86	12.42	105	+ 5
	Birbhum	12.52	11.00	88	— 12
	Bankura	12.90	12.54	97	— 3
	Midnapore	12.85	12.54	97	— 3
	Hooghly	12.51	12.00	96	— 4
	Howrah	12.38	11.19	90	— 10
	24-Parganas	13.06	16.56	127	+ 27
	Calcutta	12.95	11.74	94	— 6
	Nadia	11.22	12.25	109	+ 9
	Murshidabad	11.12	15.61	140	+ 40
	Jessore	10.91	11.09	101	+ 1
	Khulna	11.78	18.67	158	+ 58
North Bengal	Rajshahi	10.67	15.05	141	+ 41
	Dinajpur	12.53	10.58	84	— 16
	Jalpaiguri	25.82	19.78	77	— 23
	Darjeeling	25.62	28.95	94	— 6
	Cooch Behar	21.90	14.74	67	— 33
	Rangpur	12.37	16.75	135	+ 35
	Bogra	11.90	12.44	105	+ 5
	Pabna	11.17	10.05	90	— 10
	Dacca	12.26	16.34	133	+ 33
	Mymensingh	15.20	17.02	112	+ 12
East Bengal	Faridpur	11.70	14.03	120	+ 20
	Backergunge	15.30	18.43	120	+ 20
	Tippera	15.02	19.89	132	+ 32
	Noakhali	24.20	26.64	110	+ 10
	Chittagong	22.25	26.78	120	+ 20
	South Lushai Hills	18.03	19.34	107	+ 7
	Patna	11.10	11.67	105	+ 5
	Gaya	12.27	13.29	109	+ 9
	Shahabad	12.08	13.55	112	+ 12
	Saran	10.85	8.30	76	— 24
Bihar	Champaran	12.97	7.28	56	— 44
	Muzaffarpur	10.95	9.77	89	— 11
	Darbhanga	12.30	11.54	94	— 6
	Monghyr	11.80	13.84	118	+ 18
	Bhagalpur	11.67	12.58	108	+ 8
	Purnea	15.29	15.15	99	— 1
	Malda	10.52	12.30	117	+ 17
	Sonthal Parganas	12.15	13.18	108	+ 8
	Cuttack	12.45	13.83	111	+ 11
	Balasore	11.18	11.51	103	+ 3
Orissa	Puri	11.71	10.22	87	— 13
	Hazaribagh	13.13	9.70	74	— 26
	Lohardaga	13.20	12.58	96	— 4
Chota Nagpur	Palamanu	13.21	14.44	109	+ 9
	Manbhum	13.00	14.33	110	+ 10
	Singbhum	13.22	14.33	108	+ 8

The following table gives the summary of the temperature and rainfall data of each of the seven meteorological divisions of the Province for the month of August 1897:—

METEOROLOGICAL DIVISIONS.					TEMPERATURE.					RAINFALL.								
					Highest observed during month.	Lowest observed during month.	Averages for month.			Average mean of month above or below normal mean of month.	Of month.			Rainy days.			Since 16th May 1897.	
							Of highest of each day.	Of lowest of each day.	Of mean for each day.		Average.	Normal average.	Variation.	Average number in month.	Normal average number in month.	Variation.	Average.	Normal average.
South-West Bengal	94.4	74.2	88.2	78.4	83.3	-0.1	12.85	11.90	+0.95	17.75	15.35	+2.40	37.86	37.76				
North Bengal	94.8	75.2	88.4	78.5	83.5	+0.6	14.23	14.53	-0.30	16.69	15.58	+1.01	44.85	54.34				
East Bengal	91.7*	73.4*	86.4*	77.8*	82.1*	+0.1*	19.20	15.76	+3.44	19.45	17.78	+1.67	54.47	55.05				
Bihar	86.9	73.8	80.0	76.9	84.0	+0.2	11.72	12.08	-0.26	16.29	13.91	+2.37	34.09	34.73				
Orissa	83.4	74.1	87.3	78.7	83.0	-0.2	11.48	11.98	-0.50	17.85	15.11	+2.74	33.58	35.95				
Chota Nagpur	92.4†	69.9†	84.6†	74.3†	79.3†	+0.1†	12.38	13.35	-0.97	15.17	16.00	+0.83	31.85	37.12				
Assam	96.6	74.5	88.5	78.1	83.3	+0.3												

* Lungleh not included. | † Daltonganj not included.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, BENGAL,
The 14th September 1897.

O. LITTLE,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from
5th to 11th September 1897.

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours of bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
					Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1897.				Inches.	°	°	°	°	°	Inches	°	%			Inches.	
Sept.	5th	114.1	Nil	29.660	80.5	83.7	6.3	77.4	78.4	0.945	77.5	91	S W by S, S W by W, and W S W	40	0.16	Cloudy, o, d, p.
"	6th	137.6	2.1	.675	80.0	86.5	9.4	77.1	78.0	.933	77.1	91	W S W and N by E.	52	0.45	Chiefly cloudy, o, g, d, t, p.
"	7th	149.5	6.8	.620	83.2	88.4	11.8	76.6	80.0	.933	78.7	86	N N E, N E, and E N E.	108	0.01	Partially cloudy, o, d.
"	8th	146.7	7.1	.598	83.0	87.7	8.9	78.8	79.0	.938	77.8	83	E by N and E N E	200	0.12	Partially cloudy, o, g, d, p.
"	9th	145.0	8.0	.653	83.0	87.8	8.3	79.5	78.9	.934	77.2	83	E N E and E ...	199	0.06	Partially cloudy, d.
"	10th	149.5	8.6	.715	83.0	88.5	10.7	77.8	78.0	.934	77.2	83	E by S, E S E, and S E by S.	160	0.06	Partially cloudy, d.
"	11th	151.1	8.7	.780	84.1	89.3	10.2	79.1	79.4	.942	77.4	80	S E and E S E ...	101	0.06	Partially cloudy, d, a.

The mean pressure of the seven days Inches, 29.672

The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office 29.652

The total number of hours of bright sunshine Hours, 41.3

The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine 86.8

The mean temperature of the seven days 82.4

The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office 83.2

The extreme variation of temperature 12.7

The maximum temperature 89.3

The highest velocity of the wind in one hour Miles, 14

The mean relative humidity 85

The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office 86

The total fall of rain from 5th to 11th September 1897 Inches, 0.91

The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office 3.11

The total fall from 1st January to 11th September 1897 45.68

The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office 52.86

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph, and from observations made at 6h., 10h., 16h., and 22h.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard, Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beckley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

o, overcast; g, gloomy; d, drizzling rain; p, passing temporary showers; t, thunder;

a, dew.

Results of the Barometrical and Thermometrical Observations taken at the Meteorological Office, Chowringhee, from 5th to 11th September 1897.

MONTH.	Date.	Pressure at 10 A.M. corrected and reduced to 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.						HYGROMETRY.			Rainfall, past 24 hours.
			Daily mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Dry bulb at 10 A.M.	Wet bulb at 10 A.M.	Vapour tension at 10 A.M.	Dew point at 10 A.M.	Humidity at 10 A.M.	
1897.		Inches.	°		°	°	°	°	Inches.	°	%	Inches.
September ...	5th ...	29.708	81.7	85.3	7.3	78.0	80.6	79.5	.995	79.1	96	0.21
" ...	6th ...	.724	88.1	88.5	10.9	77.6	84.8	81.5	1.036	82.3	87	0.12
" ...	7th ...	.859	84.3	91.1	13.6	77.5	85.6	81.5	1.022	79.9	83	0.21
" ...	8th ...	.647	84.2	89.5	10.7	78.8	86.1	81.5	1.015	79.7	82	0.08
" ...	9th ...	.695	84.4	88.9	9.1	79.8	86.6	81.5	1.009	79.5	80	0.06
" ...	10th ...	.750	83.8	89.9	12.2	77.7	85.6	80.5	.974	78.4	80	0.31
" ...	11th ...	.840	85.7	92.0	12.7	79.8	86.6	80.5	.960	78.0	76	0.03

The mean 10 A.M. pressure of the seven days Inches.
29.718

The mean temperature of the seven days °
83.9

The extreme variation of temperature °
14.5

The maximum temperature °
92.0

The mean 10 A.M. relative humidity of the seven days %
83

The total fall of rain from 5th to 11th September 1897 Inches.
1.02

The daily mean temperatures are the crude means of maximum and minimum temperatures.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, BENGAL,

The 13th September 1897,

C. LITTLE,

Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal,

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, —BENGAL

Statement showing heights over mean sea-level and low-water in the Rivers Ganges, Bhagirathi, Jalangi, and Brahmaputra, for the month of July 1897.

RIVER GANGES.																								RIVER BHAGIRATHI.		RIVER JALANGI.		RIVER BRAHMAPUTRA.	
Mirzapur.				Benares.		Buxar.		Dinapore.		Monghyr.		Sahibganj.		Rampur Baulia.		Gokandoo.		Barhampore.		Sarupganj.		Gauhati.							
Miles.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24						
1st	...	18'48	21'64	18'00	208'80	12'48	18'47	19'80	154'03	12'87	11'47	13'67	81'67	10'80	10'80	18'08	24'08	13'58	46'33	10'40	14'70	23'35	171'11						
2nd	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
3rd	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
4th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
5th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
6th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
7th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
8th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
9th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
10th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
11th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
12th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
13th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
14th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
15th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
16th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
17th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
18th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
19th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
20th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
21st	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
22nd	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
23rd	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
24th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
25th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
26th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
27th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
28th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
29th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
30th	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
31st	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						
32nd	...	19'00	21'28	18'00	204'80	10'42	17'57	19'20	133'43	12'87	11'47	14'17	82'17	11'50	11'50	15'33	24'27	13'75	46'40	11'30	15'00	23'40	172'06						

A. S. THOMSON,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.CALCUTTA,
Th 14th September 1897.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

Abstract statement showing Tollage on Canals in Bengal classed as Major Works for the month of July 1897, as compared with that of the corresponding month of the previous year.

CANALS.	TOLLAGE, 1897-98.			TOLLAGE, 1896-97.		
	During the month.		To end of the month.	During the month.		To end of the month.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Orissa Circle.</i>	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Taldanda Canal System	1,115 4 9	5,023 7 9	1,270 14 6	15,149 1 11		
Kendrapara ditto	10,761 9 3	40,655 5 6	8,506 13 1	30,014 6 9		
High Level Canal, Range I	1,416 1 3	4,443 10 6	1,674 9 0	6,154 15 0		
Ditto, " II	151 12 6	516 0 6	3 8 2 0	1,605 15 9		
Ditto, " III	37 5 3	145 11 3	157 11 6	785 5 0		
Jajpur Canal	27 7 9	64 5 9	28 11 0	101 7 9		
Total Orissa Circle ...	13,509 8 9	50,848 9 3	11,976 13 1	53,811 4 2		
<i>South-Western Circle.</i>						
Midnapore Canal	12,303 6 9	47,347 5 3	11,380 7 6	50,458 15 3		
Hijili Tidal Canal	9,154 2 0	40,476 3 0	10,919 13 6	33,039 5 6		
Total South-Western Circle ...	21,457 8 9	87,823 8 3	22,300 5 0	83,498 4 9		
<i>Sone Circle.</i>						
Patna Canal System	1,562 12 6	9,267 1 3	2,573 8 6	8,612 15 0		
Arrah ditto	3,583 5 0	12,952 12 9	1,852 5 0	7,959 13 0		
Buxar ditto	894 4 9	3,792 7 6	548 0 3	3,593 3 0		
Total Sone Circle ...	6,040 6 3	26,012 5 6	4,973 13 9	20,165 15 0		
GRAND TOTAL ...	41,007 7 9	1,64,684 7 0	39,250 15 10	1,57,475 7 11		

Government Transport Service.

CANAL.	TOLLAGE, 1897-98.						TOLLAGE, 1896-97.					
	During the month.			To end of the month.			During the month.			To end of the month.		
	Passengers.	Goods.	Total receipts.	Passengers.	Goods.	Total receipts.	Passengers.	Goods.	Total receipts.	Passengers.	Goods.	Total receipts.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Orissa Circle.</i>	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.
High Level ...	6,630	468	4,921 12 1	14,004	4,472	11,144 11 1	3,407	528	3,047 4 9	12,212	1,974	10,629 12 4
Total Orissa Circle ...	6,630	468	4,921 12 1	14,004	4,472	11,144 11 1	3,407	528	3,047 4 9	12,212	1,974	10,629 12 4

Assessed Tollage Receipts.

CANALS.	EARNINGS, 1897-98.			EARNINGS, 1896-97.		
	During the month.		To end of the month.	During the month.		To end of the month.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Orissa Canals	18,431 4 10	61,993 4 4	15,024 1 10	64,441 0 6		
Midnapore Canal	12,303 6 9	47,347 5 3	11,380 7 6	50,458 15 3		
Hijili Tidal Canal	9,154 2 0	40,476 3 0	10,919 13 6	33,039 5 6		
Sone Canals	6,040 6 3	26,012 5 6	4,973 13 9	20,165 15 0		
Total	45,929 8 10	1,75,829 2 1	42,298 4 7	1,68,105 4 3		

CALCUTTA,
The 14th September 1897.

A. S. THOMSON,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

Abstract statement showing Tollage on Canals in Bengal classed as Minor Works and Navigation for the month of July 1897, as compared with that of the corresponding month of the previous year.

CANALS.	TOLLAGE, 1897-98.		TOLLAGE, 1896-97.	
	During the month.	To end of the month.	During the month.	To end of the month.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Calcutta and Eastern Canals ...	18,371 14 9	72,044 13 0	20,385 8 9	78,193 3 6
Tolly's Nala ...	5,281 5 6	19,089 13 9	5,879 1 9	21,567 6 0
Total ...	23,653 4 3	91,134 10 9	26,264 10 6	99,760 9 6
Orissa Coast Canal ...	6,134 13 9	26,662 15 0	7,343 15 9	30,826 3 6
Nadia Rivers ...	9,702 6 0	18,388 3 3	13,700 2 3	22,347 8 3
GRAND TOTAL ...	39,480 8 0	1,36,185 13 0	47,308 12 6	1,52,934 5 3

CALCUTTA,
The 14th September 1897.

A. S. THOMSON,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 11th September 1897, as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.

NATURE OF CARGO.	WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 11TH SEPTEMBER 1897.			WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 12TH SEPTEMBER 1896.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy ...	350	71,395	796	565	65,724	858
Jute ...	164	35,265	654	193	49,175	869
Firewood ...	120	79,076	1,338	99	44,700	681
Other articles ...	747	1,75,795	2,338	916	1,80,509	2,562
Total ...	1,871	3,61,530	5,126	1,773	3,40,108	4,970

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Statement of Goods Traffic in Staples carried during the three weeks and three days ending 24th July 1897, as compared with the same period of 1896.

STAPLES.	1896.		1897.		INCREASE.		DECREASE.	
	Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freight.
	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
Coal & Coke carried for the public and foreign railways	44,40,475	6,06,705	50,84,170	6,56,238	6,14,695	49,547	...	...
Cotton, raw	52,727	22,736	54,057	35,060	21,930	12,324	...	...
Cotton, manufactured—								
1.—Twist & Yarn, European	4,042	4,126	4,231	5,421	189	1,295	...	...
2.—Ditto, Indian	21,771	15,670	22,588	13,115	817	...	...	2,669
3.—Piece-goods—European	55,355	62,614	55,057	60,213	2,702	5,509	...	...
4.—Ditto—Indian	14,709	6,124	15,720	8,722	1,017	2,598	...	...
Drugs and Chemicals—								
1.—Intoxicating, other than opium	485	507	610	365	165	...	...	142
2.—Non-intoxicating	5,097	5,098	8,601	7,220	3,704	1,538	...	...
Dyes and Tans—								
1.—Indigo	286	383	3,734	947	3,448	564	...	...
2.—Myrabolams	9,834	1,010	6,542	3,701	...	2,085	3,292	...
3.—Cutch	1,613	845	1,394	868	...	...	219	...
4.—Turmeric	4,009	2,168	6,011	5,212	1,402	3,044	...	...
5.—Aniline dyes	107	71	162	206	55	135	...	...
6.—Others	298	147	2,343	330	2,045	192	...	...
Grain and Pulse—								
1.—Wheat	1,63,392	46,007	3,87,801	1,33,913	3,25,499	87,110	...	...
2.—Rice in the husk	43,046	4,929	1,38,054	22,635	95,008	17,613	...	...
3.—Rice not in the husk	3,21,108	60,171	10,77,317	2,90,001	7,56,209	2,39,830	...	...
4.—Jowar and Bajra	9,002	1,020	24,907	5,587	15,905	3,967	...	...
5.—Gram & pulse	4,70,435	1,22,359	3,06,873	69,402	...	...	1,09,562	32,957
6.—Others	1,04,774	26,052	1,11,053	22,607	6,279	...	...	3,445
Hides and Skins—								
1.—Hides of cattle	40,109	28,273	47,545	29,255	1,436	982	...	...
2.—Skins of sheep, &c.	11,857	5,319	15,850	6,422	3,003	1,103	...	...
Horns	3,063	2,197	1,806	1,293	...	...	1,268	904
Fats—								
1.—Raw	5,036	966	8,871	3,375	2,035	2,609	...	...
2.—Gunny-bags and cloth	44,820	20,006	62,478	34,668	17,644	14,062	...	...
Lac—								
1.—Stick	31,473	19,127	34,261	13,333	2,778	1,206	...	...
2.—Shell	10,433	13,777	18,973	10,143	2,540	2,368	...	...
Leather, manufactured	2,520	2,901	3,095	3,537	275	636	...	...
Liquors—								
1.—Beer	11,440	4,544	6,410	3,510	...	...	5,030	1,036
2.—Spirits	1,000	2,000	1,046	1,982	...	...	554	918
3.—Wines	3,611	3,942	3,458	3,626	...	...	1,153	316
Metals—								
1.—Copper, unwrought	407	424	245	329	...	...	165	95
2.—Brass, ditto	1,023	1,716	956	315	...	...	667	1,401
3.—Copper, wrought	684	491	1,045	403	361	...	...	38
4.—Brass, ditto	9,651	4,940	11,845	5,056	2,194	410	...	...
5.—Iron	1,46,550	58,032	1,82,794	45,203	0,235	...	...	12,840
6.—Others	7,005	3,352	6,329	3,638	...	183	1,678	...
7.—Zinc & spelter	1,205	899	651	451	...	...	614	448
Oils—								
1.—Kerosine	98,173	43,789	1,18,547	45,980	20,374	1,541	...	16
2.—Castor	8,484	687	2,002	672	...	...	...	...
3.—Coconut	8,667	1,222	4,293	1,784	736	562	...	...
4.—Others	14,773	7,106	11,128	3,907	...	...	3,045	3,169
Oil-seeds—								
1.—Linseed	5,15,556	1,28,472	3,02,347	95,434	...	...	1,23,209	50,035
2.—Rape and mustard	1,07,452	30,997	2,94,324	64,837	1,86,872	33,937	...	4,062
3.—Fl or jinifili	17,177	4,824	4,353	708	...	...	12,844	...
4.—Poppy	71,717	18,743	67,414	18,771	...	...	4,303	...
5.—Earthnuts	29	30	9	3	...	...	...	...
6.—Castor	40,758	28,222	78,176	17,240	37,418	...	...	...
7.—Others	1,521	133	22,601	5,891	21,280	5,768	...	21,073
Opium	1,882	1,710	1,198	1,812	...	103	...	...
Paper and pasteboard	12,354	8,084	11,185	8,879	...	215	1,160	...
Provisions—								
1.—Ghee	19,000	16,177	29,402	16,795	3,793	618	...	...
2.—Dried fruits and nuts	944	789	1,014	662	70	...	...	...
3.—Others	71,209	31,060	61,377	21,144	...	...	9,833	10,516
4.—Potatoes	42,059	7,012	41,510	10,022	...	8,610	1,134	...
Railway plant & rolling-stock carried for the public & foreign railways—								
1.—Locomotive engines & tenders & parts thereof	351	379	1,301	220	920	...	...	139
2.—Carriages & trucks & parts thereof	2,846	385	251	27	...	...	2,597	334
3.—Steel rails & fish-plates	23,854	932	1,41,875	39,850	1,18,021	37,918	...	...
4.—Sleepers & keys of steel & cast iron	...	...	7,081	900	7,081	200	...	...
5.—Other sorts	86,314	15,114	1,08,243	32,631	81,929	17,417	...	...
Salt	3,68,789	81,860	4,22,722	60,693	33,833	...	...	1,177
Saltpetre, &c.—								
1.—Saltpetre	39,629	18,625	35,697	15,616	...	...	3,932	8,000
2.—Other saline substances	22,997	7,077	25,453	8,099	2,506	1,023	...	...
Silk, raw—								
1.—Foreign	...	...	165	10	165	10	...	...
2.—Indian	2,327	774	653	447	...	...	1,474	257
Silk piece-goods—								
1.—Foreign	...	...	1	4	1	4	...	...
2.—Indian	123	144	45	40	...	...	75	95

STAPLES.	1896.		1897.		INCREASE.		DECREASE.	
	Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freight.
	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
Spices—								
1.—Betel-nuts	8,278	6,210	13,317	11,127	5,039	4,917	...	...
2.—Pepper	936	850	1,305	871	429	44	...	...
3.—Ginger	1,408	481	1,203	737	...	236	...	...
4.—Chillies	7,056	1,874	11,341	5,855	4,285	3,981	198	...
5.—Cardamoms	402	452	11,180	1,075	737	633	...	...
6.—Others	447	163	393	247	...	84	84	...
Stone and lime	3,50,777	57,180	2,94,678	72,453	...	47,272	23,799	...
Sugar—								
1.—Refined	8,078	3,300	12,712	6,146	3,734	3,840	...	...
2.—Unrefined	84,887	13,476	1,32,602	27,770	47,616	14,234	...	...
Tea—								
1.—Foreign	...	...	120	22	120	22	...	...
2.—Indian	1,806	1,859	3,712	1,026	1,914	507	...	...
Timber	66,341	12,938	76,604	15,316	10,263	2,275	...	...
Tobacco	60,741	24,630	96,701	36,342	35,960	11,702	...	...
Wool, raw	1,733	1,184	1,903	742	70	...	...	443
Wool, manufactured—								
1.—Piece-goods, European	161	270	56	123	...	...	105	154
2.—" Indian	1,152	2,052	2,208	3,342	1,056	290	...	...
3.—Shawls	8	20	...	...	...	...	8	20
All other articles of merchandise—								
1.—Firewood	8,015	447	8,506	1,171	491	734	...	...
2.—Indigo seed	2,181	618	2,456	706	305	...	...	...
3.—Mowah flower	22,380	4,402	25,022	6,568	2,732	2,086	...	110
4.—Oil-cake	44,933	7,388	46,695	17,375	20,762	10,667	...	...
5.—Paints & colours	10,336	3,989	4,220	2,228	...	...	...	...
6.—Seeds other than oilseeds	22,605	9,543	26,344	10,344	3,739	1,003	6,510	1,441
7.—Wooden articles	18,432	8,171	9,697	4,637	...	...	3,435	1,131
8.—Others	1,51,423	46,401	3,06,009	64,410	2,12,586	36,009	...	...
Total	85,24,739	18,30,341	1,08,08,033	23,20,860	23,44,194	5,00,630	...	...
Military stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Coal for railway	10,633	18,308	12,472	23,666	2,440	5,381	...	...
Railway materials	6,13,524	47,301	8,34,322	62,118	2,21,296	14,757	...	...
Live-stock	13,57,712	38,016	6,53,240	42,068	...	0,082	7,34,466	...
Total	1,06,36,011	19,33,206	1,23,69,473	24,09,444	16,33,462	5,20,148	...	1,311

C. W. CLARKE, Assistant Auditor.

TRAFFIC AUDIT OFFICE, GOODS DIVISION, JAMALPUR, the 7th September 1897.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 4th September 1897 on 1,702.46 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	(a) 984,566	Rs. A. P. (a) 2,47,093 13 0	Mds. S. 80,68,721 10	Rs. A. P. 6,03,350 15 0	Rs. A. P. 21,728 0 0	Rs. A. P. 9,38,932 12 0	90,071	136,818	226,889
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	145 10 8	.....	333 1 11	12 13 3	551 8 10	.....	.....	.....
For previous 8½ weeks of half-year ...	* 2,379,509	* 23,16,300 0 0	+ 3,04,84,841 0	+ 59,57,044 1 0	+ 1,69,610 0 0	84,63,800 7 0	758,984½	1,191,074½	1,950,059½
Total for 9½ weeks ...	2,644,075	25,64,300 3 0	3,39,43,562 10	60,27,315 0 0	2,11,338 0 0	94,02,853 3 0	849,055½	1,328,492½	2,177,548½
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	298,850	2,77,794 11 1	28,80,755 80	3,32,350 11 10	18,365 5 3	3,49,510 13 3	80,665	114,824	195,489
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	163 4 10	.....	334 11 9	10 13 9	406 13 9	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 9½ weeks of previous year ...	2,769,343	26,57,236 11 8	2,81,63,134 0	51,31,623 9 3	1,67,243 12 4	79,49,193 1 3	779,419	1,078,492	1,857,911

* Deducted number of passengers 2,029 and Rs. 1,211 }
 † Added Mds. 61,919 and " 9,896 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the week ended
 ‡ Ditto " 765 } 24th July 1897.
 (a) The decrease is chiefly in outward traffic.

TARKESSUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 4th September 1897 on 22.23 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	16,509	Rs. A. P. 4,118 12 0	Mds. S. 9,230 10	Rs. A. P. 417 14 0	Rs. A. P. 7 0 0	Rs. A. P. 4,543 10 0	1,127	805	1,932
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	185 4 6	.....	18 12 9	0 5 0	204 6 3	.....	.....	.....
For previous 8½ weeks of half-year ...	* 166,010	* 38,594 0 0	+ 94,892 20	+ 2,798 7 0	+ 176 0 0	41,428 7 0	9,383	675	10,058
Total for 9½ weeks ...	182,519	42,702 12 0	74,122 20	3,186 5 0	83 0 0	46,972 1 0	10,509	980	11,489
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	18,359½	4,483 5 1	8,150 30	324 3 0	3 9 3	4,871 1 4	1,137	51	1,188
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	201 10 10	.....	17 4 6	0 3 7	219 1 11	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 9½ weeks of previous year ...	195,102	46,579 1 4	65,069 10	3,026 3 0	34 6 0	49,599 12 4	10,978	506	11,484

* Deducted number of passengers 617 and Rs. 392 }
 † Added Mds. 61 " 7 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the week ended
 ‡ Deducted " 3 } 24th July 1897.

DELHI-UMBALLA-KALKA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 4th September 1897 on 160.47 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	15,707	Rs. A. P. 15,771 5 0	Mds. S. 60,164 30	Rs. A. P. 9,611 1 0	Rs. A. P. 71 0 0	Rs. A. P. 25,653 6 0	7,726	4,402	12,128
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	98 4 6	.....	61 2 3	0 7 1	159 13 10	.....	.....	.....
For previous 8½ weeks of half-year ...	* 140,214	* 1,50,899 2 0	+ 5,54,897 20	+ 81,955 9 0½	+ 2637 0 0	2,33,391 11 0	64,655	20,496	85,151
Total for 9½ weeks ...	154,921	1,66,670 7 0	6,15,082 10	91,766 10 0	608 0 0	2,60,043 1 0	72,331	34,948	1,07,279
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	15,869½	13,646 8 3	68,419 0	6,635 9 0	47 13 6	20,218 14 9	6,856	3,024	9,880
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	86 6 7	.....	41 4 8	0 4 9	126 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 9½ weeks of previous year ...	168,457	1,52,247 5 0	5,80,683 20	65,876 5 0	491 2 10	1,99,616 12 10	63,960	27,683	91,643

* Deducted number of passengers 250 and Rs. 1,133 }
 † Added Mds. 18,808 and " 87 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the week ended
 ‡ Deducted " 9 } 24th July 1897.

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

(INCLUDING N. B., DACCA, K.-D., AND ASSAM-BEHAR SECTIONS.)

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 4th September 1897 on 814 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (including ferry).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	163,460	72,790 0 0	1,044,580 0	2,52,570 0 0	8,070 0 0	3,34,430 0 0	29,112	42,560	71,008
Or per mile of railway ...	201	81 0 0	1,284 0	310 0 0	1 0 0	402 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 8 weeks of half-year ...	1,302,140	6,42,290 0 0	5,870,680 0	12,02,140 0 0	1,01,500 0 0	19,45,930 0 0	269,200	265,680	533,680
Total for 9 weeks ...	1,528,620	7,16,080 0 0	6,915,660 0	14,04,710 0 0	1,03,570 0 0	22,90,360 0 0	298,312	308,460	604,772
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding period of previous year ...	207,726	83,063 0 0	1,188,470 0	2,71,506 0 0	11,841 0 0	3,67,102 0 0	31,500	45,037	76,537
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	265	103 0 0	1,460 0	334 0 0	1 0 0	458 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	1,804,406	7,72,874 0 0	8,428,179 0	17,37,651 0 0	1,30,663 0 0	26,40,678 0 0	299,839	3,43,525	643,464

* Excluding steam-boat earnings.

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 4th September 1897 on 86 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	24,310	6,600 0 0	39,110 0	2,530 0 0	230 0 0	9,630 0 0	2,063	1,156	3,244
Or per mile of railway ...	283	80 0 0	453 0	29 0 0	3 0 0	112 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 8 weeks of half-year ...	170,240	40,560 0 0	204,880 0	12,480 0 0	1,310 0 0	63,860 0 0	21,611	9,411	32,023
Total for 9 weeks ...	194,550	50,450 0 0	243,990 0	15,010 0 0	1,540 0 0	73,000 0 0	24,699	10,567	35,266
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	40,127	11,676 0 0	26,235 0	2,504 0 0	60 0 0	14,239 0 0	2,410	1,556	3,966
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	467	136 0 0	328 0	29 0 0	1 0 0	166 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	311,890	64,673 0 0	162,217 0	14,980 0 0	1,601 0 0	31,334 0 0	21,977	10,147	32,124

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 28th August 1897 on 125 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	22,021	9,684 0 0	1,46,873 0	13,657 0 0	119 0 0	23,436 0 0	3,607	5,380	9,168
Or per mile of railway ...	191	77 0 0	1,175 0	109 0 0	1 0 0	187 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 7 weeks of half-year ...	214,004	83,861 0 0	7,16,439 0	49,803 0 0	2,233 0 0	1,36,890 0 0	32,886	37,349	60,235
Total for 8 weeks ...	236,015	93,545 0 0	8,63,332 0	63,432 0 0	2,352 0 0	1,59,329 0 0	36,693	32,708	69,401
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	30,897	9,840 0 0	1,30,868 0	15,002 0 0	169 0 0	24,800 0 0	3,900	4,951	8,751
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	248	77 0 0	1,047 0	120 0 0	1 0 0	198 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	279,219	64,236 0 0	6,12,767 0	55,837 0 0	1,900 0 0	1,41,475 0 0	32,093	34,010	66,073

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 4th September 1897 on 125 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	25,022	9,713 0 0	1,56,870 0	16,743 0 0	139 0 0	26,595 0 0	3,807	5,157	8,964
Or per mile of railway ...	200	78 0 0	1,255 0	134 0 0	1 0 0	213 0 0	30,693	32,706	63,401
For previous 8 weeks of half-year ...	238,016	93,545 0 0	8,63,332 0	68,432 0 0	2,352 0 0	1,59,329 0 0	40,500	37,865	78,365
Total for 8 weeks ...	263,037	1,03,258 0 0	10,20,202 0	80,175 0 0	2,491 0 0	1,85,924 0 0			
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	30,940	8,760 0 0	1,47,052 0	15,372 0 0	127 0 0	24,259 0 0	3,836	5,400	9,236
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	248	70 0 0	1,184 0	123 0 0	1 0 0	194 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	310,159	92,998 0 0	7,60,719 0	71,308 0 0	1,437 0 0	1,65,733 0 0	35,898	29,410	65,308

BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

(INCLUDES TIRHUT STATE RAILWAY.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ending 28th August 1897 on 815 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
Total traffic for the week on 815 miles open ...	69,090	35,940	3,15,070	35,700	10,870	(a) 52,600	18,618	(b) 17,032	35,650
Or per mile of railway ...	121'68	44'10	386'69	43'91	13'34	101'35	...	...	...
For previous 7 weeks of half-year ...	771,790	2,82,720	33,41,500	4,10,400	1,10,980	8,04,160	123,980	147,405	270,384
Total for 8 weeks ...	870,880	3,18,660	36,56,630	4,40,280	1,21,820	8,96,700	157,007	164,437	322,044
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 756 miles open ...	88,594	32,965	2,63,540	31,825	12,363	77,173	14,027	(c) 14,947	28,974
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	117'19	43'60	348'00	42'10	16'38	102'08	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	804,998	2,93,631	31,67,070	3,95,024	86,696	7,77,310	115,587	162,947	278,534

(a) Increase is due to brisker traffic.

(b) Includes 3,633 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

(c) " 670 " " "

ASSAM-BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 28th August 1897 on 238 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	12,270	6,065 0 0	1,46,847 0	7,572 0 0	704 0 0	14,361 0 0	2,596	3,371	5,967
Or per mile of railway ...	51'59	25'57	617'00	31'81	2'98	60'34	10'87	14'16	25'03
For previous 7 weeks of half-year (a) ...	88,036	43,980 0 0	8,14,045 0	20,169 0 0	2,652 0 0	76,791 0 0	14,105	20,403	34,508
Total for 8 weeks ...	1,00,315	50,065 0 0	9,60,892 0	37,731 0 0	3,356 0 0	91,163 0 0	16,691	24,174	40,865
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	9,793	4,635 0 0	87,097 0	3,086 0 0	606 0 0	8,327 0 0	1,277	2,266	3,543
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	51'58	29'15	547'78	19'41	2'61 0 0	52'57	6'08	14'36	20'43
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	88,031	43,776 0 0	9,40,402 0	30,951 0 0	1,762 0 0	76,499 0 0	12,089	24,212	36,301

(a) Includes audited figures up to week ending 17th July 1897.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of Gross Receipts of the Assam-Bengal Railway.

RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 28TH AUGUST 1897.			RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 29TH AUGUST 1896.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL TO 28TH AUGUST 1897.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL TO 28TH AUGUST 1896.			Total increase in 1897.	Total decrease in 1897.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.		
238	Rs. 14,361	Rs. 60'34	159	Rs. 8,327	Rs. 52'37	238	Rs. 3,33,937	Rs. 159	238	Rs. 2,96,064	Rs. 1,04,263		

DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

							Rs.	A.	P.
Approximate earnings for the week ending 4th September 1897	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,470	0	0
Corresponding period of 1896	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,940	14	3
Increase	...	...	...	...	...	...	529	1	9
Receipts per mile for the week ending 4th September 1897	...	...	...	...	...	...	264	1	10
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1896	...	...	...	...	...	...	253	11	11
Increase	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	5	11
Receipts from 1st July to 4th September 1897	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,36,638	0	0
Corresponding period of 1896	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,33,453	0	0
Increase	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,185	0	0



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1897.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

[Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.]

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RESOLUTION ON THE STATISTICAL INFORMATION FURNISHED BY THE BOARD OF REVENUE REGARDING THE STAMP DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 1896-97.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT—SEPARATE REVENUE.

Darjeeling, the 18th September 1897.

RESOLUTION—No. 361T.-F.

READ—

A memorandum No. 657B., dated the 21st August 1897, from the Board of Revenue, submitting statistical information regarding the Stamp Department for the year 1896-97.

The receipts, charges, and net revenue in 1896-97, under both the Indian Stamp Act I of 1879, and the Court-fees Act VII of 1870, were Rs. 1,75,74,310, Rs. 4,93,461 and Rs. 1,70,80,849, respectively; against Rs. 1,67,71,627, Rs. 4,74,968 and Rs. 1,62,96,659 in the preceding year. The increase in receipts occurred in both judicial and non-judicial stamps.

2. According to the figures furnished by the Superintendent of Stamps, which will have to be reconciled with the final figures compiled by the Accountant-General, Bengal, the sale proceeds of judicial stamps show an increase of Rs. 3,46,960, against Rs. 36,280 in 1895-96, adhesive and impressed, court-fee stamps and stamps for copies alike contributing to the improvement. The increase is most marked in Midnapore (Rs. 65,755), Hooghly (Rs. 54,711), 24-Parganas (Rs. 39,116), Rangpur (Rs. 34,564), Patna (Rs. 30,884),

Backergunge (Rs. 30,148), Burdwan (Rs. 27,841), Bankura (Rs. 23,407), and Cuttack (Rs. 21,918). Increased litigation, the higher values of some of the suits, and improved receipts from probate duty, are the causes assigned.

3. The increase of Rs. 4,93,622 in the value of non-judicial stamps sold was shared by all classes of stamps except share transfer, hundi, notarial and advocate, vakil and attorney stamps. Impressed sheets, the most important of non-judicial stamps, show an advance of no less than Rs. 3,77,801, which was contributed by 41 districts, the largest increases having occurred in Mymensingh (Rs. 38,777) and Monghyr (Rs. 32,038). The improvement in Mymensingh is attributed to the increase in loans, mortgages, sales, &c., caused by the high prices of food-grains; while the increase in Monghyr is said to be due partly to a larger use of stamps in completed cases of batwara, and partly to extensive purchases of stamps by a rich banker. Impressed labels, or special adhesive stamps, which are in use only in Calcutta, improved by Rs. 1,11,964, owing to the execution of certain conveyances of tea estates for large considerations. One-anna revenue stamps show an increase of Rs. 24,574, foreign bill stamps of Rs. 4,602, and impressed one-anna stamps for cheques, &c., of Rs. 781. On the other hand, there is a decrease of Rs. 21,707 under share-transfer stamps, of Rs. 3,431 and Rs. 462, respectively, under hundi and notarial stamps, and of Rs. 500 under advocate, vakil, and attorney stamps.

4. The number of cases in which deficient stamp duty and penalty were levied by the Civil and Revenue Courts during the year was 3,409, against 4,113 in 1895-96, and the amount of duty and penalty realized was Rs. 34,208, as compared with Rs. 39,478. Prosecutions for the infringement of the provisions of the Indian Stamp Act were instituted in 415 cases, against 1,249 in the preceding year. The fines imposed on offenders amounted to Rs. 3,261, against Rs. 8,789, and rewards to informers paid in 10 districts aggregated Rs. 1,093, against Rs. 2,230 paid in 15 districts in the previous year.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

C. E. A. W. OLDHAM,

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

RESOLUTION ON THE ANNUAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE BURDWAN DIVISION FOR THE YEAR 1896-97.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT—MISCELLANEOUS.

RESOLUTION No. 2603.

Darjeeling, the 14th September 1897.

READ—

The Annual General Administration Report of the Burdwan Division for the year 1896-97.

The Commissioner remarks that though the district reports were submitted with fair punctuality, the statistics accompanying them were often both incomplete and inaccurate. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that District Officers will devote greater attention to this matter in future.

Mr. C. E. Buckland had charge of the Division during the year, except for about three months when Mr. Stevenson officiated for him. Mr. Stevenson submits the present report. Mr. W. R. Bright was in charge of the Midnapore district throughout the year; in each of the other districts there was one change of District Officers, except in Birbhum, where there were three. There were changes in the charge of all the Subdivisions except Raniganj, Katwa, Vishnupur and Jahanabad. As many as five different Officers held charge of Serampore; it is to be regretted that administrative necessities should have required these numerous changes; it is not surprising that the Commissioner, on inspecting the Subdivisional office, should have found it in an unsatisfactory state.

On the 1st December 1896, the head-quarters of the Commissioner were transferred from Burdwan to Chinsurah.

2. *Tours and inspections.*—Mr. Buckland visited every part of the Division, making himself acquainted with the conditions of his charge, and discussing locally the most important pending matters. He also inspected all the district and subdivisional offices, except those at Burdwan Sadar and the Hooghly Treasury, which were inspected by Mr. Stevenson, and that at Uluberia, which was left uninspected. Mr. Stevenson, however, visited this place shortly after the close of the year.

In the Resolution of this Government No. 749Mis., dated 18th February 1896, it was directed that Commissioners should decide annually the duration of each District Officer's tour, and what the tour programme of each officer should comprise. Except in the case of the Burdwan district, it has not been stated in the present report what periods of tour were prescribed by the Commissioner under those orders; the Lieutenant-Governor desires that this information may be given in future Divisional Reports, and that it may be stated how far the tours, prescribed by the Commissioner, have been made. The District Officers of all districts except Howrah, as well as the Subdivisional Officers, appear to have spent sufficient periods on tour: besides the usual enquiries and inspections, they devoted special attention to the condition of the people, and to the question of food supplies. Mr. Bright, in Midnapore, and Mr. Manisty, in Bankura, were on tour for 122 and 110 days, respectively. Mr. Maguire, in Howrah, was prevented by an epidemic of small-pox, by the necessity for taking measures to prevent the spread of plague, and by other Municipal affairs, from spending more than 45 days on tour.

The Government and Wards' Estates in Midnapore, and the Government Estates in Hooghly, were inspected by the Commissioner and Collector. It does not appear whether the Collector of Bankura and the Subdivisional Officers in Birbhum, Howrah, Bankura and Burdwan inspected their own offices; the Subdivisional offices at Katwa, Rampur Hât and Vishnupur were each inspected only once. Otherwise, all the prescribed inspections appear to have been made, except, as noted above, at Uluberia.

3. *Crops: material condition of the people.*—Although the Divisional average of rainfall was more than 10 inches higher than in 1895-96 (50.52 inches against 40.21), it was nearly 7 inches below that of 1894-95 (57.39 inches) and was ill distributed, as indeed was the rainfall throughout the greater part of India. The crops were poor as a whole, but they were better than in

other parts of the province; and Bankura is the only district of the Division in which it has been found necessary for Government to open relief operations.

During the year under review, the Division exported no less than 28,99,718 maunds of paddy, and 53,89,969 maunds of rice. The exports of paddy in 1895-96 had amounted to 9,31,604 maunds, and those of rice to 46,11,509 maunds; it is noteworthy that the export trade of the Division in paddy was more than three times as great in 1896-97, while that in rice increased only by about one-sixth. The nett export of all classes of food-stuffs in 1896-97 was 72,75,386 maunds, and this large export trade continued undiminished in 1897-98. The crops of 1895-96 had been short also; and a Division which can afford, after two years of poor crops, to export such enormous quantities of food-stuffs, must produce very much more than is required for local consumption, and have large hoards of food-grains in ordinary years. The value of rice and paddy exported from the Division, during the year under report, is estimated at 2½ crores of rupees.

Prices of food were high in this Division, as elsewhere, but the wages of labour showed no tendency to rise; and the agricultural depression affected most labourers and handicraftsmen and the classes with small fixed incomes. Mr. Stevenson thinks, probably with truth, that the greater portion of the profit on exports went to middlemen and mahajans.

4. *Public health.*—The year 1896 appears to have been more unhealthy than the two previous years, the Divisional ratio of reported deaths *per mille* being 32·8, against 31·7 in 1895 and 31 in 1894. The chief increase on the death-rate of 1895 was in Bankura and Midnapore. The total of deaths from fever was rather less than in 1895 (166,603 against 168,494), but 27,715 persons died of cholera, against 16,981 in 1895. The severest outbreaks of cholera appear to have been in the riparian towns of Howrah, Bally and Serampore; but this disease prevailed largely throughout the Division, a fact attributed in part to the scarcity of good potable water. District Boards and Municipalities did their best to relieve this want, so far as their funds admitted, and advances were given freely by Government for the excavation and improvement of tanks. It is reported also that some efforts were made by private persons, who spent as much as Rs. 28,090 in this way in the Burdwan district.

5. *Emigration.*—The number of emigrants to the tea districts, registered during the year, shows a very marked decrease to 922 from 4,510 in 1895-96. On the other hand it is reported that “free” emigration was very brisk, owing to the agricultural depression and to the large demand for labour in the tea gardens: the total figures are not available, but 16,588 “free” emigrants are said to have passed through the depôts in the Burdwan district against 12,361 in 1895-96. The decline in registered emigration was confined to this district, and has not been satisfactorily explained. The matter is one to which the attention of the Superintendent of Emigration may with advantage be given. There was again a large number of convictions for abuses connected with recruitment, and Mr. Stevenson’s remarks on this matter are of interest.

6. *Manufactures and Mines: Trade and Commerce.*—As was remarked in the Resolution on the Report for 1895-96, the principal industries—pottery, jute and cotton-spinning and weaving, rope-making, the manufacture of chemicals and paper—appear to be progressing steadily; but in the absence of complete figures it is not possible accurately to gauge the progress made. The indigenous silk, shell-lac and brass industries continued to decline. It is reported that there is considerable competition for coal-producing land in the Raniganj Subdivision, and that the search for fresh strata is being pushed on. The exports (chiefly by rail) of coal and coke from the Division, which may be taken as a fair measure of the outturn, aggregated 1,484,969 tons, against 806,232 tons in 1895-96. The expansion of the trade in food-stuffs has been already noticed. Taking all articles of trade together, there appears to have been a marked decrease in imports (from 86,93,576 to 76,28,788 maunds) in spite of the great increase of exports (from 2,81,48,719 to 4,91,77,288 maunds); and this is no doubt due to the high prices of food-grains.

7. *Vital statistics.*—It was pointed out in last year’s Resolution that the reported birth-rate was often much lower than the death-rate, and that such a result could scarcely be accepted as true. In Municipalities in which a

large proportion of the population consists of mill-hands and other labourers or servants, who have left their families at home, the figures returned may to some extent represent actual facts; but generally there can be no doubt that they are vitiated by defective reporting. Some progress seems to have been made in this respect in the Burdwan district, where the recorded birth-rate now approximates more nearly to the death-rate than in 1895, though still much below it.

8. *Civil Justice*.—Ninety-five thousand three hundred and forty-eight cases were disposed of in the Civil Courts, against 89,049 in 1895, and the number of witnesses examined was 110,940, against 103,151 in 1895. Though the number of witnesses increased, the Lieutenant-Governor notes with satisfaction that they were discharged more promptly, for the proportion of those examined who were detained more than two days was 9·3 per cent. in Courts of District and Subordinate Judges and Small Cause Courts, and 16·8 per cent. in the Munsifs Courts; the corresponding percentages in 1895 were 13·8 and 17·7 respectively.

9. *Crime: Police: Criminal Justice*.—Both cognizable and non-cognizable crime showed a continued increase, 21,800 cognizable cases excluding those in which the police refused enquiry and 20,991 non-cognizable cases being reported, against 18,928 and 20,526, respectively, in 1895. If offences against sanitary regulations are excluded, the number of cognizable cases rose from 12,196 to 13,448. The increase of crime was most marked in the case of offences against property and was, as Mr. Stevenson remarks, in all probability mainly due to the agricultural depression and high prices of food-grains that prevailed. There were 8,352 prosecutions for sanitary offences. As in 1895, more than 96 per cent. of the cognizable cases reported were found to be true, 872 were declared false, and prosecutions instituted in connection with 108 of these; 28·7 per cent. of these prosecutions resulted in conviction. The proportion of cases in which the police refused enquiry to cases investigated was 5·1 to 100, against 7·1 to 100 in 1895. Police cases appear to have been disposed of less promptly than in 1895.

Out of 203 cases tried at the Sessions, convictions were obtained in 60·09 cases, a result slightly less favourable than in 1895.

Stipendiary Magistrates disposed of 17,071 cases, and Honorary Magistrates of 9,985. Thirty-three thousand nine hundred and fifty-five persons were tried, and 70·22 per cent. of them were convicted; 67,415 witnesses were examined, and 6·38 per cent. were detained more than two days. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets to notice that the proportion of witnesses detained for more than two days is considerably higher, both in the Courts of Stipendiary and of Honorary Magistrates than in 1895, when it was only 3 per cent. This is a matter to which the unremitting attention of the Commissioner and District Officers should be given. The detentions are greater in the Courts of Honorary than in those of Stipendiary Magistrates and are attributed to the late attendance or entire absence of some Honorary Magistrates. The Lieutenant-Governor approves of the action taken in calling on Magistrates, who do not attend at all or come late, either to resign, or to perform their duties with more punctuality in future.

Fines to the amount of Rs. 1,24,115 were imposed during the year; Rs. 1,10,941 were collected out of the total demand, and Rs. 12,872 remitted. Mr. Stevens is glad to notice the excellent attendance of Honorary Magistrates at the Vishnupur Bench.

The District Officers have not recorded any detailed criticisms of the conduct of the police; but Mr. Stevenson makes some interesting remarks on the peculiar difficulties with which the police have to contend in districts like Burdwan, Hooghly, Howrah and Midnapore, where crime is better organized and planned than in more remote and backward districts.

10. *Land Revenue*.—The total demand, current and arrear, on account of land revenue, road, dāk and embankment cesses was Rs. 1,02,99,462; and the amount collected was Rs. 96,98,192, or 94·16 per cent. A sum of Rs. 74,657 was remitted. In the Resolution on last year's Report, it was remarked that there was much room for improvement in the revenue administration of this Division. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to observe that, notwithstanding the unfavourable circumstances of the year under report, considerable improvement

has been effected. The collections of land revenue were much better than in 1895-96, especially in Midnapore, where 95·91 per cent. of the current demand was collect. d. Midnapore has long been known as a difficult district in respect of collections, and the improvement that has now been made reflects great credit on Mr. W. R. Bright, the Collector. In Midnapore and Hooghly, 98 per cent. of current demand in permanently-settled estates was collected, and the other three districts attained the prescribed standard of 99 per cent. Having regard to the short crops and general agricultural depression of the year, Mr. Stevens considers these results creditable to the Revenue Officers and to the Zamindars of the Division.

The following were the percentages of collections on the current demand in temporarily-settled estates, the prescribed standard being 95 per cent. :—

Burdwan	...	...	...	40·3
Birbhum	...	...	...	100
Bankura	...	...	...	69·0
Midnapore	...	...	...	92·4
Hooghly with Howrah	...	...	...	69·4

Burdwan, Bankura and Hooghly show no signs of improvement in this matter, but no explanation of the continued bad results in this class of estates has been furnished. The Lieutenant-Governor again desires to call the Commissioner's attention to the short collections in temporary-settled and farmed estates. The collections in Government estates were on the whole not unsatisfactory.

11. *Wards' Estates.*—There were eight estates or portions of estates under the management of the Court of Wards in the Division. Three were released during the year; two of these were handed back with substantial balances, but the third, Barutterhingley, was given up, because its management by the Court had not been successful. Leaving out of consideration the small portion of the Shankarpur Estate in Howrah, the percentage of total collections on total demand was best in the Burdwan Raj Estate, where it was 71·3.

In last year's Resolution, attention was drawn to the obvious necessity of remitting portions of the outstanding arrears; but the Lieutenant-Governor regrets to find that the only estates in which substantial progress has been made in either realising or writing off the large arrear balances, are those of Nayagram and Sujamutha in Midnapore. A thorough examination of outstanding balances would appear to be especially necessary in the Burdwan Raj Estate, and one should be carefully made without further delay.

12. *Excise, Stamps, Income-tax.*—The total excise revenue rose from Rs. 13,30,348 to Rs. 13,56,767, the increase being distributed under all heads; the incidence per head of population was 2 annas 9 pies. The increase is attributed partly to better settlements and partly to the more effectual repression of smuggling, and in Midnapore and Howrah to the influx of Railway and other coolies from other provinces, who were consumers of excise articles. In other districts, the excise revenue was, it is reported, affected injuriously by the bad crops of the year. The stamp revenue increased largely from Rs. 19,18,462 to Rs. 21,67,367, a fact which, as well as a large increase in the registration of deeds, is probably due to the bad harvests. The income tax yielded Rs. 2,41,683, the percentage of collection on the final demand being 99·7, still better than in the preceding year.

13. *Communications.*—Work was being vigorously pushed forward on the Calcutta-Midnapore-Cuttack and Sini-Midnapore extensions of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. Two tramway lines were under construction in the Howrah district. The District Board did their best to maintain and improve existing roads, but their funds are barely sufficient even for that purpose. There is happily no general need for new roads in the Division.

14. *Education.*—There were 10,986 schools, with 311,956 pupils, at the end of the year, being 30 less schools and 8,626 more pupils than at the end of 1895-96; and 54·7 per cent. of the total number of boys of a school-going age were at school, against 52·9 in the previous year. The number of girls at school diminished by 4,367 to 14,165, but no explanation has been furnished by the District Officers concerned. The cost of education in the Division was Rs. 11,72,395, less by Rs. 4,440 than in 1895-96. The number of Muhammadans

at school remained practically stationary at 29,595. The technical schools at Burdwan and Maisadal appear to have done good work.

15. *Dispensaries and Hospitals.*—There were 54 medical institutions in the Division; that at Burdwan continues to be the most successful. A number of dispensaries are kept up by zamindars for the benefit of the public at their own expense.

16. *Local Self-Government Institutions.*—District Boards are reported to have worked well; but Local Boards appear to have done only a very small modicum of useful work. Of the newly-formed Unions, some in Midnapore, which contained official or ex-official members, are said to have done useful work. A general election of Municipal Commissioners was held during the year, and is said to have aroused interest. Mr. Stevenson points out the increasing reluctance of desirable candidates to put themselves forward for election to Municipal Boards. Conservancy is he says, sometimes imperfectly supervised by Municipal Commissioners; taxes are often badly in arrears; Municipal Commissioners are too prone to unwarrantable interference with the servants of the Municipalities, forgetting that it is not for them, but for the Chairman or Vice-Chairman to pass orders direct. Party-feeling runs high among them, and sometimes public interests are subordinated to it. But with all these defects, Mr. Stevenson acknowledges that it has usually been possible to find a majority of the Commissioners open to reason in the long run. A new Municipality was formed at Asansol. Municipal management appears to have been fairly satisfactory, except in the important towns of the Hooghly district, where it ought to have been better and not worse than in the remoter parts of the Division, if wealth and education have any effect. The Magistrate of Howrah fears that funds will not be forthcoming by which to maintain the present high standard of efficiency in that Municipality.

17. *Social and Political Institutions.*—The Division contains 24 Associations of various kinds, mostly occupied with local matters. Seven journals are published.

18. *Conduct of Zamindars.*—It is reported that the relations between landlords and tenants were unusually good, except in two cases. Raja Ram Ranjan Chakravarti Bahadur of Hitampur, Raja Joti Prasad Garga of Moisdal, and Babu Pulin Behari Singh of Ukhra in Burdwan, are specially mentioned for their liberality. The last named gentleman remitted a whole year's rent on account of the bad harvests.

19. The thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor are due to Messrs. Buckland and Stevenson for their efficient administration of the Division, and to Mr. Stevenson for his clear and interesting Report, from which the following extracts are published for general information.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

M. FINUCANE,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

*Extracts from the Annual General Administration Report of the Burdwan Division
for the year 1896-97.*

III.—WEATHER AND CROPS.

PARA. 22. The Collector of Burdwan considers that taking into account the enormous and continuous exports of the last seven months, the average outturn of the winter rice crop was not less than 12 annas. The areas which suffered most owing to deficient rainfall and unequal distribution of rain, were the Buddud and the Ausgram thanas in the Sadar and Kaksa in the Raniganj subdivision. The weather was specially unfavourable to the sowing, germination, and growth of wheat, and of pulses generally. Sugarcane was the only crop that succeeded, but its outturn was affected to some extent by the unusual dryness of the early winter months.

23. In thana Dubrajpur, in Birbhum district, the winter rice crop produced a 12-anna harvest, but in the rest of the district the yield was between seven and nine annas only. The outturn of the *rabi* crops did not exceed three annas.

24. The yield of the *aman* or main rice crop was not on the average eight to nine annas, and in the northern parts of thana Sonamukhi, the west and north of thana Gangajalghati, and in the south-west corner of the district the outturn was as low as four to five annas. These are the areas in which, after the close of the year, scarcity was first declared. The *aus* crop may have been a 12-anna one. The cultivation of other kinds of rice is restricted to certain localities, and is unimportant. Very little *rabi* is grown in the district and this crop also suffered. Sugarcane, however, did better, the outturn being estimated at 10 annas. As usual, two varieties of cotton were grown, but the area under cultivation is said to have been much smaller than usual for want of moisture at the sowing season. The outturn was about eight annas. Indigo yielded only half an average crop; the plants when ripe in August having suffered from the heavy rainfall.

25. In Midnapore the entire absence of rain in September had a most injurious effect on the crops. The Magistrate and Collector of Midnapore remarks that "the fact that the quantity of rice exported this year was by far greater than that of any previous year shows that there were ample stocks (of old paddy), and it was thus that the district was saved from a famine."

26. It is reported from Hooghly that the protracted drought of the year not only injured the paddy crop, but to a large extent prevented the sowing of *rabi*. *Rabi*, where sown, however, yielded a fair outturn wherever water was available from tanks or rivers. In Jahanabad, the outturn of the paddy was estimated at nine annas against eight annas in 1895-96, and in Serampore at only six annas, though the Magistrate considers this figure too low. In Sadar the yield was about eight annas. Throughout large tracts in the north, which were visited by Mr. Allen, the District Officer, extensive fields were actually bare or had given only a two or a four-anna crop. Jute did well in Serampore, and so did potatoes, which are widely cultivated in places, where irrigation is feasible. Some damage was caused in the Jahanabad subdivision by floods in the Damodar river.

27. There would probably have been a total failure of the *aman* in Howrah, but for a rainfall of close on six inches early in September which saved the crop.

V.—MATERIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

41. The unsatisfactory harvest of the year under review following the short crops of 1895-96 affected materially the condition of certain classes of the people, though not to the extent noticeable in other parts of the country.

Those who had reserves of grain to dispose of, obtained large profits from its sale as prices ruled high throughout the year. But everywhere for weavers, and such like; for those on small fixed incomes, and for those of the lower middle class with small holdings which they are above cultivating themselves, the year was a hard one as it was also for many of the labouring and landless class, and for persons cultivating small holdings who had no reserves of grain. The figures supplied by District Officers show that no less than 28,90,056 maunds of paddy and 53,88,609 maunds of rice were exported from the Division during the year, and this taking rice at 10 seers and paddy at 20 seers the rupee represents a payment to the exporters of Rs. 2,73,34,548. How much of this sum stands for profit it would be interesting to know. It is not, however, likely that it was the cultivator who as the rule benefited where there had been successive bad harvests, as he could have but little surplus to get rid of after settling with the money-lender. The exports more probably put money only into the mahajan's pocket in the majority of cases.

42. In Burdwan the people who most felt the effects of short crops and of high prices were as usual the lower middle classes and beggars, as there was no dearth of work for labourers, and the mining population in the Raniganj subdivision obtained high wages in spite of the stagnation of the coal trade.

43. In Birbhum the exports amounted to no less than 20,13,153 maunds, the value of which is estimated at Rs. 60,39,459. Here also the Collector observes, the cultivating classes were comparatively well off, while there was considerable hardship among labourers and persons in service.

44. In Bankura, in parts of which the failure of crops was extensive, the landless class, largely made up of Bauris, is reported to have felt the strain of high prices severely. A considerable proportion of the labouring population is said to have left the district in quest of employment. This, however, is always the case, and while very possibly a larger number than usual so left last year, there are no reliable figures available. Advances under the Land Improvement and the Agriculturists' Loans Acts were freely made, and actual distress did not make its appearance until some time after the close of the year, when it was found necessary to declare the district as affected by scarcity and to open relief works.

45. The report from Midnapore is more favourable. The high prices which prevailed enabled cultivators, it is said, to make large profits by the sale of the surplus from the previous year's crops which had been fair. In the low-lying tracts composing the jurisdiction of the Contai and the Tamluk subdivisions, the rice harvest was a fair one, and the people were better off than those living in other parts of the district. The only classes which appear to have been hard up, were the inferior Government employes and persons like the weavers of Ghatal subdivision. The latter are described as gradually abandoning their looms and betaking themselves to agriculture and other occupations. The labouring class obtained plenty of work on the railway line in progress. The Sonthals, who form the bulk of the population of thana Binpur, migrated in large numbers in quest of work. Only a few old beggars had to be relieved, and they were so by small doles granted from charitable funds at the disposal of the Magistrate.

46. In Hooghly also, those on whom high prices pressed most hardly, were the landless classes and persons with small fixed incomes. Those who had grain to sell were comparatively well off, but to those with small holdings and no surplus grain, the year was a most trying one. The Collector writes: "In some parts of the district cultivators and men on small salaries, including the police, were reduced to short rations, and generally the labouring classes felt the high prices keenly. The aged and the infirm, and persons dependent on their neighbours or relatives for support, would have been reduced to actual distress, but that the inherent charitable instincts of the villagers which enable the country to get on without a poor law, have, in this trying year, widened the sphere of unostentatious private charity, and in the form of alms and loans of grain prevented actual famine touching even such helpless objects." The mills in different parts of this district also appear to have afforded work to the labouring population.

The Magistrate of Howrah reports in very similar terms. He observes that for those who wanted it, work was always available in the mills and on the different railway and tramway lines under construction.

VI.—EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

47. Emigrants were registered during the year in the districts of Burdwan, Bankura, and Midnapore. The subjoined statement shows the number of emigrants registered in each district during the last two years:—

DISTRICT.	FOR THE COLONIES.						FOR TEA DISTRICTS.					
	1895-96.			1896-97.			1895-96.			1896-97.		
	Coolies.	Dependents.	Total.	Coolies.	Dependents.	Total.	Coolies.	Dependents.	Total.	Coolies.	Dependents.	Total.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Burdwan	2,947	969	3,906	91	20	111
Birbhum
Bankura	155	109	264	262	219	471
Midnapore	231	109	340	204	136	340
Hooghly
Howrah
Total	3	...	8	...	...	...	3,383	1,177	4,510	547	376	923

The above figures represent, however, but a small proportion of the actual number who emigrated to the labour districts, as free emigration took place largely as it did in 1895-96.

48. The number of emigrant coolies registered in the district of Burdwan, excluding dependents, fell from 2,947 in 1895-96 to 91 in the year under report. This very marked decrease is ascribed to the growing preference of employers for free labour. It is not explained why this preference should have developed so suddenly and so forcibly as in a single year almost to do away with registration. Under the free emigration system, 16,588 coolies passed through the several depôts in this district against 12,361 in 1895-96, an increase which is attributed to an increased demand for coolies in the tea gardens as well as to a widespread apprehension of scarcity in large tracts of the recruiting districts.

49. In Bankura the increase in the number of emigrant coolies is attributed to the high price of cereals in the district. The numbers are however small. Out of 252 coolies and 219 dependents only 17 coolies (with 4 dependents) were brought for registration by professional recruiters employed in Calcutta: all the rest, namely, 235 coolies (with 215 dependents), were recruited by garden sardars. This may be said to show that garden sardars were more successful in securing labourers for tea gardens than were professional "arkatis" who are looked upon with distrust and suspicion. But it is more probably due to the fact that garden sardars usually bring up to the tea districts a better class of cooly than do the others, which accounts for the proprietors of tea gardens preferring the former agency. It is not only that the sardari cooly is usually better value as a worker, but what is as important, having usually friends in the garden he is less likely to desert. The Magistrate reports that complaints against the recruiting agency as regards initial registration have now become rare, special care continuing to be taken to prevent fraud and violence on the part of the recruiters. As usual, a number of labourers left the district in the cold weather in quest of employment, chiefly Sonthals and the semi-aboriginal Bauris. Many also went to Midnapore to work on the railway. Figures showing the extent of these temporary emigrations are not available.

50. In Midnapore the number of registered cooly emigrants continued to decrease, being 204 against 231 in 1895-96. Including dependents, however, the number of emigrants remained the same as in 1895-96, namely, 340. Free emigration was exceptionally brisk during the year owing to the failure of crops in thana Binpur (which is inhabited largely by Sonthals) and to the high prices generally prevailing.

51. Statements showing criminal cases connected with emigration, as prescribed by Government order No. 1848, dated the 21st April 1892, are annexed. A large number of cases occurred in Burdwan, Birbhum, and Bankura, and the majority ended in convictions. There was no case instituted against emigrant coolies.

52. As regards abuses in recruitment, the Subdivisional Officer of Raniganj repeats his last year's opinion that comparatively a very small proportion of the malpractices of recruiters came to light, while a still smaller number can be made the subject of criminal proceedings. He states that when inspecting he has come across large number of unwilling coolies whom he has sent back at the expense of the manager of the depôt in the absence of evidence to support a prosecution. There can be no doubt that the ignorance of the cooly and his confusion on finding himself far from home give the fraudulent recruiter a great advantage. On the other hand, it is equally true that many of these "unwilling" coolies are persons who have changed their minds, but declare they never left home willingly, from the fear lest if they admit this they will not be permitted to return. Widows and other women living a hard life at home are specially open to tempting offers of living at ease on a tea garden in the keeping of some one of the staff.

53. There were altogether 8 places of accommodation for coolies recruited by contractors and garden sardars under Act I of 1882, and 8 depôts and 30 rest-houses for free emigrants under Act I of 1889. One rest-house in each of the districts of Birbhum and Midnapore was opened late in the year, and the temporary rest-house in Howrah came to notice only about the same time. All the other rest-houses and depôts were duly inspected, although only one inspection was recorded in the prescribed register against one of the rest-houses in Bankura. All the depôts in Raniganj and Asansol were inspected by the Superintendent of Emigration, and most of them visited by my predecessor. With few exceptions, the depôts and rest-houses appear to have been sufficiently well maintained as regards accommodation and sanitary arrangements. Two of the rest-houses in Rampur Hât were closed as the sanitary arrangements were found to be wholly unsatisfactory, and the license for a rest-house in Bankura has been withheld pending the erection of a privy and the supply of sleeping platforms for the use of emigrants. Much good is reported to have resulted from the appointment during the year of an Assistant Superintendent of emigration for the Raniganj subdivision. He visits the depôts, checks the admission registers, and keeps a careful watch over the sanitary arrangements, the quality of the food, the water-supply, and the physical condition of the emigrants. He is also said to be often present when coolies are despatched. This is a very important duty, as at that time an examination of the emigrants in the batch and comparison with the registers may lead to the detection of such frauds as the substitution of one person for another, &c.

54. There was no registered immigration into the districts of this Division. Labourers in large numbers come to the Division from the North-Western Provinces and Bihar in quest of work in the brick-fields, mills, factories, and on the railways, and this over and above the interdistrict cold weather movement of labourers, chiefly Sonthals and Bauris, with the same object.

VII.—PRICES OF FOOD AND LABOUR.

55. There was an abnormal rise in the price of common rice during the year, the average price in this Division being so high as 10 seers 7 chitaks during the last fortnight of 1897, against 16 seers 7 chitaks in the corresponding fortnight of 1896. This high price is due partly to poor crops in the Division and partly to the enormous quantities of rice and paddy exported from it to other parts of India.

A marked rise in the price of wheat and gram also occurred during the year, but this did not affect the masses, these not being articles commonly consumed by them. Salt was cheaper in Bankura and dearer in all other districts except in Birbhum, where the price of the article remained stationary.

Notwithstanding the high price of rice, the staple food-grain of the people, the wages of labour as reported remained almost unchanged, custom being an

important factor in preventing rapid fluctuations, but when once they have gone up they do not fall again. In Midnapore the new railway works caused a slight rise in the wages of all classes of labourers, except juvenile coolies, *gharamies*, and common blacksmiths.

XIV.—POLICE.

107. My predecessor has not left upon record his opinion as to the working of the police, and my own experience of the Division has been too small to enable me to form one. There is, however, no doubt to my mind that the police in the districts of Burdwan and Hooghly with Howrah, and to a less extent in Midnapore, have peculiar difficulties to contend with in cases affecting property especially. Not only, as the Magistrate of Hooghly points out, do the railways and river facilitate the commission of crimes, but the police have got to deal with better organized and planned crime than is the case in districts more remote from Calcutta, while the vicinity of Calcutta renders safe disposal of the proceeds comparatively easy. In one recent case in which the house-owner plucked up courage and killed a dacoit, it was discovered that the man killed was an English-knowing Babu of fairly respectable family, got up as an Afghan or Peshawari, as the local name is. This instance will serve to show the class of criminal the police have to meet and the difficulties of detection. The death of this dacoit gave a clue to his gang. Had he escaped, some of the Peshawaris of Calcutta and the neighbourhood would have been blamed for the crime as was obviously intended. Another matter which has facilitated crime and handicapped the police in the above mentioned districts is the presence of a large and constantly changing body of unknown up-countrymen employed in the collieries and mills, or on the railway lines in process of construction. These men are answerable for not a few dacoities, and they have taken to using revolvers in some Midnapore cases. It seems very desirable that license for pistols of sorts should not be so freely granted as at present. In some cases dynamite cartridges were exploded by the dacoits in order to frighten away the villagers. These must have been purloined from the collieries—a matter which also calls for attention. It is to be regretted that the shortcomings of the new Sub-Inspector class in Midnapore have not been stated at length, and that other district reports are silent as to how far the new system has had good results. What was at first feared was that the new Sub-Inspector would be a mere office-man—a student quite out of touch with the common people and utterly unable to meet the criminal on his own ground. It was also feared that the head-constables would not from their experience supplement this deficiency of the Sub-Inspectors, both because having no hope of further promotion they had lost heart and interest in their work, and because they were jealous of the new class of Sub-Inspector and did not see why they should exert themselves when the Sub-Inspector alone would get the credit. It would have been interesting to know how far these apprehensions had been warranted by experience.

XXIII—RAILWAYS AND OTHER PUBLIC WORKS.

169. That part of the Calcutta-Cuttack extension of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway passing through the districts of Howrah and Midnapore was under construction during the year: earthwork was nearly finished and ballast trains were in use for the transit of materials on several sections of the line before the close of the year. Station sites are being selected, houses are being constructed, and work generally is being pushed on vigorously.

A flag station was opened in July last on the East Indian Railway close to the Hooghly Bridge at a cost of Rs. 13,741.

The Howrah-Amta and the Howrah-Sheakhala Steam Tramway lines in the districts of Howrah and Hooghly are under construction. These lines should have been opened for traffic on the 25th March last, but as the work could not be completed, Messrs. Martin & Co. have applied for an extension of time up to 31st December 1897.

Of the projects mentioned in paragraph 182 of the Divisional General Administration Report for 1895-96, the following were still under consideration at the close of the year :—

- (1) The construction of a line from Burdwan to Katwa, with another line from the latter town to Hooghly *via* Kalna.
(The survey of these lines was completed during the year.)
- (2) A line from Bhagalpur to Ahmedpur *via* Suri.
- (3) A line from Midnapore through the Bankura district to Muralia on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway (a reconnaissance has recently been made in connection with this project).
- (4) A line from Chandernagore to Chinsura.

XXX.—LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

202. The various District Boards in this Division are reported on the whole to have acquitted themselves well. The District Boards. attendance of members have been generally good, and as consultative bodies, the Boards have in many matters been useful to the District Officers. No party spirit or friction of any kind marred the working of District Boards during the year under report. The Magistrate of Hooghly specially acknowledges the good work done by Vice-Chairman Rai Lalit Mohan Singh Bahadur.

203. The Local Boards in Burdwan are said to have done some useful work during the year. For a time the working of the Local Boards. the Kalna Local Board was anything but satisfactory, but matters, it is reported, have now improved. The Vice-Chairman of the Katwa Local Board toured through the subdivision and made some valuable observations in the course of the trip. It would be well if Chairmen and members of Local Boards imitated his example and moved about more. In Birbhum the Local Board discharged its duties satisfactorily, except that attendance was irregular. In Bankura, also, the same complaint of want of interest is made, and the Local Boards showed themselves unequal to the proper management of pounds and ferries, though in the matter of primary education they gave assistance. Mr. W. R. Bright, as Magistrate of Midnapore, adheres to the same unfavourable opinion regarding Local Boards as was expressed by him last year and reproduced in paragraph 217 of the last Divisional General Administration Report. He remarks that any slight improvement in pound management is due to pressure exerted by the District Board, while the state of village roads leaves as much to be desired as ever. He instances a case where he discovered that very little of the money paid to a contractor had been spent upon the work in hand, and he considers that some special agency to inspect these small roads is necessary if work upon them is to be satisfactory.

In Hooghly and Howrah Local Boards are stated to have worked smoothly, though it is reported that in Howrah too much money is wasted on useless fair-weather roads.

204. There are no Union Committees in the districts of Birbhum and Bankura. Those in the district of Burdwan have Union Committees. been entrusted with the control of village roads and the inspection of primary schools, but the Magistrate considers it premature as yet to record an opinion as to their usefulness.

In Midnapore, also, the Magistrate desires to suspend judgment till further experience of their working has been gained. With a stiffening of at least one official or ex-official member some unions in Midnapore have proved useful, and the correctness of the Magistrate's opinion expressed last year that such a stiffening is necessary appears to have been corroborated by recent experience, as in the only union without this more money, it is reported, was billed for and obtained than seems to have been actually spent during the year, the bills being supported by false muster rolls. The matter is under enquiry. The work done by the unions in Hooghly calls, it is said, for no special comment, while in Howrah the unions failed to spend even the small sums allotted to them.

205. A new municipality was formed during the year at Asansol, in the district of Burdwan. The fifth general election of Municipal Commissioners was held towards the end

Municipalities.

of the year, and especially when personal feeling was imported into the contest, a good deal of interest in the result was exhibited. There seems no doubt, however, that there is a growing inclination on the part of gentlemen who would be acquisitions to a Municipal Board to hold aloof from these elections partly because they object to hold out to the body of voters promises of reduction of taxation, and the like, which they know full well are but empty words, though thus only can they expect success at the poll, and partly because they consider it hurtful to their self-respect to place themselves in competition with candidates not improbably of no social position. The result is that undesirable candidates not infrequently succeed, and faction leaders have more opportunity of getting in their creatures who but vote as directed.

There has been decided improvement in municipal administration in Burdwan, Raniganj. and Katwa, and in Bankura and Birbhum districts, as in Burdwan, municipalities are favourably reported upon. The same may be said of Midnapore district, with the exception of Kharar Municipality, of which the Subdivisional Officer of Ghatal is Chairman. During the interval between the departure on transfer of one Subdivisional Officer and the arrival of his successor, the Municipal Commissioners are reported to have done their best to get municipal affairs into disorder, collections were stopped, as also the issue of warrants. The new Subdivisional Officer has of course set vigorously to work to restore order. The municipalities in Hooghly district, leaving out Jahanabad, are reported to have many points in common. They are all situated on the banks of the Hooghly. None of them have a decent water-supply, and in all cases the drainage is extremely defective. The public latrines are for the most part badly constructed and not properly looked after; conservancy is imperfectly supervised, except when the work is taken up by the Civil Surgeon or the Civil Medical Officer. Taxes are often badly in arrears, and stringent measures for their collection are rarely resorted to, and even when they are, it is only in a half-hearted way. Commissioners are too prone to unwarrantable interference with the servants of the municipality, forgetting that it is not for them, but for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to pass orders direct. It would matter less were this interference for a good object, though even so it would be objectionable. Unfortunately the intention may very likely be to favour unduly some friend or neighbour. Party feeling runs high in many cases, and to this are subordinated the interests of the public. Establishments are frequently inefficient and but imperfectly supervised, yet attempts to raise salaries are constantly being made, and even when a municipal employé is admittedly past work, it requires all the Magistrate's influence to have his services dispensed with.

Even under such circumstances, however, the Magistrate reports that it has usually been possible to find a majority open to reason in the long run. The water-supply scheme common to all municipalities of Hooghly district, except Jahanabad and Bansberia, has been generally approved; maps have been prepared and forwarded to the Sanitary Board. Mr. F. W. Duke, the Magistrate of Howrah, writes regarding that municipality, the most important in the division:—"The Howrah Municipality appears to have been efficiently managed at an expense out of proportion to its means, and is said to be now cleaner and healthier than it has been for many years. Where the funds are to come from by which this state of efficiency is to be maintained, is not yet apparent." The office management of Bally Municipality is said to leave much to be desired.

RESOLUTION ON THE ANNUAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE CHITTAGONG DIVISION FOR THE YEAR 1896-97.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT—MISCELLANEOUS.

Darjeeling, the 17th September 1897.

RESOLUTION—No. 2610.

READ—

The Annual General Administration Report of the Chittagong Division for the year 1896-97.

Mr. F. H. Skrine was in charge of the Division throughout the year, except for two months during which he was on leave, when Mr. J. D. Anderson officiated. The Report is submitted by Mr. F. R. S. Collier. Mr. S. K. Agasti had charge of the Noakhali district the whole year, and the Feni and Chandpur subdivisions were each under the charge of a single officer; in the other districts and subdivisions there were changes of charge.

2. *Tours and Inspections.*—Mr. Skrine spent 85 days on tour; besides making the usual inspections, he went to Hill Tippera and installed His Highness the Raja on the *gadi*, spent some time in the South Lushai Hills investigating the causes of a disturbance which had occurred there among the Military Police, and visited the island of Kutubdia twice. The tours of District and Subdivisional Officers appear to have been well planned and of sufficient length; but it is not stated what periods of touring were prescribed by the Commissioner under the recent orders of Government. It is not reported when and how Government and Wards' Estates were inspected, nor whether Subdivisional Officers inspected their own offices; all the other prescribed inspections were performed.

3. *Weather and Crops: Material Condition of the People: Public Health.*—As in the rest of the province, the rainfall of 1896-97 was short; the mean of the three Regulation districts was 73·93 inches, 14·5 inches below that of 1895-96, when the mean was again 14·5 inches below that of 1894-95. The crops were poor, with the exception of the *aus* rice and jute crops in Tippera; and prices of food ruled extremely high in this Division as elsewhere, being double those of the preceding year, and treble those of 1894-95. The wages of labour, however, remained stationary. There was some distress towards the close of the year, and charitable funds were raised to relieve it, but it has not been found necessary for Government to open relief operations in any part of the Division. The plague which was destroying the betel-nut trees in Noakhali appears to have ceased.

The following are the death-rates per mille reported in each district for the two years, 1895 and 1896—

			1895.	1896.
Tippera	...	...	26·7	26·4
Noakhali	...	...	25·2	30·19
Chittagong	...	...	30·8	32·5

As the Commissioner remarks, these low death-rates show registration to be defective; there has, however, been some improvement in this respect, except in Tippera. It would be useless to base upon these figures any inference as to the comparative healthiness or unhealthiness of any particular year.

4. *Manufactures, Trade and Commerce.*—1,130,963 cwts. of tea were exported from Chittagong during the year, against 968,949 cwts. in the previous year. There was a considerable decrease (of Rs. 58,80,226) in the total trade of the Chittagong port, which is valued at Rs. 2,18,03,256. The decrease is common both to imports and exports. Exports of rice and paddy fell off considerably owing to the bad crops, as did exports and imports (from Narayanganj and other neighbouring inland ports) of jute, owing partly to a short crop and partly to the destruction of a large quantity of the staple by fire at Narayanganj. Eleven vessels cleared for foreign ports and 559 for Indian ports, against 19 and 621, respectively, in the previous year. Nine vessels were built here during the year.

The total exports from the Division of rice and paddy amounted to 4,20,502 maunds and of jute to 13,98,405 maunds as compared with 10,63,899 maunds and 15,31,087 maunds, respectively, in the preceding year. The exports of

food-grains to Calcutta decreased considerably, being only 29,019 maunds during the year under report, against 3,85,140 maunds in 1895-96.

5. *Civil Justice.*—There appears to have been a decrease in litigation except in the case of rent suits, the number of which rose from 34,443 in 1895 to 35,633 in 1896; money suits decreased from 29,941 to 28,652 and title suits from 11,627 to 10,913. Both the increase in rent suits and the decrease in other suits are attributed to the agricultural depression. The number of witnesses examined was 103,593 against 106,846; in Munsifs' Courts they appear to have been discharged at about the same rate as in 1895, but in the Courts of District and Subordinate and Small Cause Court Judges the ratio of witnesses detained more than two days to the total number examined was 20·6 against 24·06 in the previous year. In connection with the Chittagong settlement, 209 notices were served under Section 424 of the Civil Procedure Code, and 27 suits were filed during the year, a very moderate number having regard to the magnitude of the Settlement operations.

6. *Crime: Police: Criminal Justice.*—The number of cognizable offences reported increased from 4,892 to 6,148, and that of non-cognizable offences from 11,820 to 14,253. The increase in non-cognizable crime was chiefly in offences against property, due to the bad harvests, and there was a serious increase of arson cases in the district and town of Chittagong. It is difficult to reconcile the increase in non-cognizable cases with the fact of the prevailing depression; and Mr. Collier sees reason to fear that it is due to laxity on the part of Magistrates in admitting complaints, and promises to look into the matter when on tour. The number of cases tried was 10,012 against 8,457 in the previous year; 1,563 cases were tried by Honorary Magistrates. The system of territorial jurisdiction of Subordinate Magistrates in Noakhali and Chittagong is reported to have worked badly. It has always appeared to Mr. Stevens that the advantages of that system are usually much exceeded by the disadvantages. It is satisfactory that, in spite of the large increase of cases, the divisional ratio of the number of witnesses detained for more than two days to the total number examined rose only from 2·4 to 2·7 per cent. in the Courts of Stipendiary Magistrates, and decreased from 16·1 to 12·9 in the Courts of Honorary Magistrates and Benches. In the Chittagong district taken by itself, however, these percentages were very high, being 6·3 and 27·56; and the worst results are shown in the Court of the Subdivisional Officer of Cox's Bazar. This matter should engage the attention of the Commissioner and District Magistrate. One thousand eight hundred and ninety-five cases were sent up by the police against 1,516 in the previous year; 628 of them were disposed of on the first day, and 68 cases or 3·69 per cent. were remanded six times or more. The attendance of Honorary Magistrates has improved generally; at Chittagong it was again excellent.

Eighty-five cases were tried at the Sessions, 72·9 per cent. of which ended in conviction; this result shows that committals were made with care.

Fines to the amount of Rs. 48,311 were imposed during the year, and Rs. 42,026 were collected; the balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 7,088, showing a slight reduction.

The work of investigation by the police appears to have shown improvement in the Chittagong district. Mr. Collier remarks, with justice, that the number of punishments dealt out to chaukidars was too much in excess of the number of rewards; this was especially so in Chittagong, where only 23 were rewarded and 1,015 were punished.

7. *Land Revenue.*—The current demand on account of Land Revenue and Road and Public Works and Zamindari Dâk cesses in the Division was Rs. 32,77,148; the outstanding arrears were Rs. 1,65,319. The total collections were Rs. 32,00,505. The following table shows the percentages of current collections on the current demand of Land Revenue in the different classes of Estates, together with the standard percentages:—

			Permanently- settled Estates.	Temporarily- settled Estates.	Government Estates.
Standard	...	...	99	95	90
Chittagong	...	...	98·45	100	85·78
Noakhali	...	...	99·75	92·34	80·22
Tippera	...	...	99·51	97·11	77·91

These percentages, especially in Government Estates, compare unfavourably with those obtained in the previous year, but, looking to the shortness of the crops, are not unsatisfactory,

There was a considerable increase in the number of certificate cases instituted, and the number of cases left pending at the close of the year has been almost trebled. The delay in the disposal of certificate work in this Division was commented upon in last year's Resolution. It was then also pointed out that certificate cases in Wards' Estates were increasing to a greater extent than was desirable, and this increase has continued in the year under review. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that the Commissioner will devote early attention to improving this branch of the revenue administration of his Division.

Mr. Stevens is pleased to note that practically the whole of the allotment (Rs. 18,920), made for the improvement of Government Estates, was usefully spent on excavation and re-excavation of tanks for the supply of good drinking-water and on agricultural improvements.

The average cost per acre of the land acquired on behalf of the Assam-Bengal Railway in Chittagong was almost double what it had been in the previous year. This increase should be explained.

8. *Wards' Estates.*—The number of private estates in charge of Government in this Division was 14, as in the previous year; their total current demand was Rs. 94,191 in Noakhali and Rs. 2,86,406 in Chittagong. The percentages of current collections on these amounts were 62.2 and 85.6, respectively. In only three estates did collections reach the standard of 90 per cent., but the collections on the whole were as good as could have been expected. In Chittagong, Rs. 29,082 were spent on improvements. Large remissions were made in the Noakhali estates mentioned in last year's Resolution, in which the outstanding balances were heavy; but this has not been done in the similarly situated estates in Chittagong. The Lieutenant-Governor again directs the Commissioner's attention to the necessity of reducing these balances.

9. *Excise: Stamps: Income-tax.*—The Excise Revenue fell heavily from Rs. 3,41,931 to Rs. 2,74,721; this decrease is attributed to various exceptional circumstances, as well as to the scarcity and to the spread of puritanism among Muhammadans. The imports of salt decreased, but a considerable portion of the large quantity imported during the previous year was taken out of bond at Chittagong. The stamp revenue rose from Rs. 15,38,860 to Rs. 15,66,569; Rs. 23,544 out of this increase of Rs. 27,709 was due to larger sales of non-judicial stamps, that is, to an increase in the execution of conveyances and bonds. The revenue derived from the income-tax has not been affected by scarcity; it was Rs. 96,781, practically the same as in the previous year.

10. *Education.*—There were 4,673 schools with 1,38,096 pupils, or 186 schools and 2,855 pupils less than the previous year. Of the estimated number of boys of a school-going age in the Division, 45.2 per cent. were at school. In Noakhali this percentage has fallen from 53.6 to 47.08, and the total number of pupils from 40,924 to 35,927; the cause of the decrease is said to be the agricultural depression, but it is remarked that this cause has not had the same result in the neighbouring district of Chittagong, which shows an increase of 1,260 pupils.

There were 14,270 girls at school. The number of Muhammadan pupils in Noakhali and Tippera is not stated; but it rose from 25,558 to 27,007 in Chittagong. In spite of the diminished number of schools and pupils, the expenditure on Education rose from Rs. 4,04,977 to Rs. 4,19,317; Rs. 2,46,389 were spent on primary education. The Lieutenant-Governor notices with satisfaction that the conduct of the school-boys was on the whole good during the year, and that there was a marked improvement in the behaviour of the pupils of the Noakhali School especially.

11. *Dispensaries and Hospitals.*—There were forty of these institutions in the Division, five more than in the previous years; and the number of patients treated shows a satisfactory increase from 2,25,145 to 2,97,211. A new General Hospital was opened at Chittagong, but it appears that more dispensaries are wanted in the interior of this district.

12. *Local Self-Government Institutions.*—The three District Boards are reported to have worked well; but they spent only Rs. 5,63,718 out of an aggregate income of Rs. 7,87,906. The District Boards of Noakhali and Tippera both spent money on useful sanitary works; but that of Chittagong did

nothing in this direction. Local Boards appear to have worked satisfactorily; but the District Officers' opinions of the working of the nine Village Unions in Tippera and Noakhali are not given. There are five Municipalities in the Division, of which the most important is that at Chittagong. The working of this Municipality has been most unsatisfactory for years past, but Mr. Collier hopes for some improvement, as it has recently elected an official Chairman. The rate-payers are, it is reported, strongly opposed to all improvements which entail additional taxation, and the elected Commissioners, even when in favour of improvement themselves, are afraid of incurring unpopularity among their constituents by voting for the introduction of them. Mr. Collier fears that the elective system is unsuited for Chittagong, but desires to give the present body of Commissioners a further opportunity of showing his fears are unfounded before proposing its withdrawal. The Lieutenant-Governor hopes that the Commissioners and their constituents will take advantage of this opportunity. The smaller Municipalities are reported to have done all they could to improve sanitation, but Chittagong to have done practically nothing, considering its income (Rs. 54,386).

13. *Political.*—The most remarkable events of the year in the political jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Chittagong were the death of His Highness Maharaja Bir Chandra Deb Burman Manikya Bahadur of Hill Tippera, and the recognition and installation of his eldest son, the Jubraj Radha Kishore Deb Burman, as Raja of Hill Tippera. His Highness the Raja made generous donations both for the relief of distress and for general public objects in the British districts of the Division, where he has large zamindaris.

The South Lushai Hills was in charge of Mr. R. H. Sneyd-Hutchinson; two powerful chiefs, Kaplehyu and Kairuma, submitted during the year. There was an unfortunate outbreak of insubordination in the Military Police Battalion.

Mr. J. A. Cave-Browne had charge of the Chittagong Hill Tracts throughout the year. The early crops were average, and were sufficient to prevent distress, but the winter rice, cotton and mustard were seriously affected by drought. Exports of paddy, cotton, mustard and *til* showed a considerable increase. No progress has been made in the re-organization of the village police; only 42 offences were reported during the year in the whole of the Hill Tracts. There were 1,175 pupils at school, 127 more than there were in the previous year. The Rangamati High School sent up five candidates for the Entrance Examination, and all passed—an excellent record. A Lushai boy passed this examination for the first time, and has since been awarded a special scholarship.

14. *Conduct of zamindars.*—The principal Zamindars of Noakhali are absentees and did little or nothing to help their tenantry in the prevailing distress, nor was there any conspicuous example of benevolence displayed by the petty landowners of Chittagong.

15. The thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor are due to Mr. Collier for his clear and concise Report, from which the following extracts are published for general information.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

M. FINUCANE,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

*Extracts from the Annual General Administration Report of the Chittagong Division
for the year 1896-97.*

III.—WEATHER AND CROPS.

13. The year 1896-97 was one of unusual drought, and the outturn of crops was much below the average everywhere in the Division. There has been a gradual falling off in the rainfall during the last three years:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.
Tippera ..	78·57	67·54	68·17
Noakhali ..	117·83	100·65	89·51
Chittagong ..	112·57	97·28	74·13

14. In Tippera the decrease was most remarkable in all the registering stations of the Brahmanbaria subdivision. The fall recorded at Agartola is 13·77 against 75·91, which is evidently incorrect. It is remarkable that in August there was only 2·83 inches at Comilla against 14·21 in the previous year, and that there was next to no rain during the month of October. Except in the case of the *bhadoi* or *aus* crop, the outturn of which shows an increase over that of the preceding year, there was a considerable falling off in the outturn of all other crops of the district. The outturn of the *aus* crop saved the Tippera district from the measure of scarcity experienced in the other two districts. The winter or *aman* rice suffered from scanty rainfall, both at the sowing and harvest time.

15. The late beginning and early cessation of the rains had also a most prejudicial effect on both the *aus* and *aman* crop in Noakhali and Chittagong. The outturn was very much below the average. While it was about 13 annas in Tippera, it was only 9 annas in Noakhali, and 10 annas in Chittagong. There was a salt-water inundation in June in the islands of the Noakhali district, and there was a betelnut plague all over the district, which destroyed over 50 per cent. of the trees, and reduced the outturn of the crop to 4 annas. Dr. Watts, the Reporter on Economic Products, visited Noakhali, and is understood to have traced the disease to a parasitic growth, which destroys the inner tissues of trees in an enfeebled state. Happily the plague has not re-appeared.

16. A storm of great violence burst over Chittagong on Wednesday, the 27th May 1896. Considerable damage was done to some of the houses occupied by the Railway Company at Pahartoli, and many old trees on the Dacca Trunk Road were destroyed. The running of the night train between Chandpur and Chittagong was interrupted, and two saloon carriages were blown for several miles and wrecked.

V.—MATERIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

21. Insufficient and unsatisfactorily distributed rainfall, and bad harvests for two successive years, told heavily on the material condition of the people of this Division. The poorer classes of cultivators fared badly, and the labouring classes had much difficulty in finding work. While almost famine prices ruled in the market, the wages of labour remained stationary. The condition of the middle classes was almost as bad, many of them having become involved in debt. Mr. Kennedy is of opinion that the real reason of the scarcity of food in his district is the very large quantity of land given up to jute. Ordinarily this crop pays handsomely, but though jute ruled very high for a great part of the year, rice ruled higher. In Noakhali, in addition to the drought, people had to face a series of other reverses. The Magistrate writes:—

“The state of things in the district has been rather unusual for the last four years. In 1893-94 there were serious inundations from very excessive rainfall, the mischief caused by which was immensely aggravated by the terrible cyclone of October 1893. Fortunately, the people had a little respite the next year, the crops of 1894-95 having been very good. The year following was not very prosperous, indeed one of less than average prosperity. The rains began late and ceased early. The *aus* was less than an average harvest, and the *aman*, the principal crop of the district, considerably more so, and the cyclone of 3rd October 1895 made matters seriously worse. Insect pests appeared in many places. The raiyats, already reduced, were in bad straits. But if the rainfall of 1895-96 was scanty and unfavourable, that of the year under report was more unfavourable still.”

22. Matters towards the close of the year became so critical, owing to the failure of the winter rains, that committees and sub-committees were formed, and funds were started all over the Division for the relief of distress which threatened to deepen into famine. A sum of Rs. 10,000 was received from the Bengal Branch of the Indian Famine Relief Fund, and about an equal sum was collected locally. Gratuitous relief has been given in places out of these funds. The District Board also started works in affected tracts, to afford employment to the poorer classes of agriculturists and labourers. With the advent of the long delayed rains, however, prospects have very much improved, as there is every probability of a good ~~and~~ crop all over the Division.

VII.—PRICES OF FOOD AND LABOUR.

24. As a result of the partial scarcity, the prices rose steadily until they wavered, all over the Division, between 8 and 9 seers a rupee, towards the close of the year. They were almost double those of last year, and treble those of the year before. Except in some cases of skilled labour, which showed a slight rise in Tippera, and a slight fall in Chittagong, the prices of labour were nearly stationary, and do not seem to have been seriously disturbed by the marked increase in the prices of food.

VIII.—MANUFACTURES AND MINES.

25. There are no mines, and with the exception of tea, no important manufactures in this Division. As reported in previous years, brass utensils, bamboo and cane baskets, and mats, pottery, rough agricultural tools, coarse, cloth, and *gur*, or undrained sugar, are the principal indigenous manufactures of the Division, which find a ready sale in the local markets.

26. The number of tea gardens working in the Chittagong district was 25, the same as in the previous year. The quantity of manufactured tea exported from Chittagong during the year was 1,130,963 cwts., against 968,949 cwts. in the previous year. Through an oversight, the latter quantity was shown as pounds in the last year's report. The increase is due to the tea gardens in the north of the district having extended their cultivation. Owing to the deficient crop, no rice was milled for exportation during the year by Messrs. Bulloch Brothers & Co. There were three aerated water manufactories at Chittagong, against four in the previous year.

27. Two pearl fisheries of some value were taken possession of by the Government, and settled during the year, in the district of Chittagong. One is situated in the island of Sonadia, near the Moiscal Island. It was discovered by an accident in 1894, and some Arakanese pearl traders confirming the discovery, a few oysters were sent to Dr. Alcock, the Superintendent of the Indian Museum. After a most careful examination, he reported that the pearls found were of trifling value, and that the oysters were not the true pearl-bearing ones, but that they belonged to the species *Piacuna Placenta*. Information of the other pearl fishery, situated on a char at the mouth of the Goomakhali creek, on the east side of the Moiscal Channel, was received in 1896. Some average specimens of the pearls found in Sonadia were transmitted for the inspection of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and final orders were then issued for the leasing of both the fisheries, which in the meantime had been ascertained to be the property of Government, the former comprising an area of 1,174.78 acres and the latter 325.12 acres. They have accordingly been leased for a term of three years, on an annual rental of Rs. 3,210, by auction sale to the highest bidder.

XXIII.—RAILWAYS AND OTHER PUBLIC WORKS.

131. There is little to report under this head. The portion of the Assam-Bengal Railway lying between Akhaura and Karimganj, in Sylhet, was opened for traffic during the year. The present arrangement of the trains on the East Bengal line, and the provision of a special steamer between Goalundo

and Chandpur, have brought Calcutta within 25 hours' journey from Chittagong. The arrangement is a very convenient one for Chittagong, but travellers for Calcutta from stations to the north of Laksam, have to wait at Laksam for no less than three hours for the arrival of the train from Chittagong. There being no waiting room, the inconvenience is great.

132. A proposal has been made for the construction of a branch line connecting Laksam with Noakhali. The project is now before Government.

133. Among other public works undertaken during the year may be mentioned the telegraph office building at Comilla, extension of the Comilla Jail enclosure, and an addition to the District Registration office and hospital building at Brahmanbaria, in Tippera. In Noakhali a room has been added to the Special Sub-Registrar's office, and the plinth and floor of a ward in the jail have been made pukka. A latrine for the Civil Court and a mortuary have been built, and the Munsif's Court-house at Hatya, which was in danger of being washed away by the river, has been removed to a safer place. The Town Hall building at Noakhali, commenced in 1895-96, was completed and opened during the year, and the construction of a hostel for school boys, in the compound of the Government school, has been taken in hand. Five new road bungalows were constructed by the District Board.

134. In Chittagong the new General Hospital was completed and opened during the year, at a total cost of Rs. 93,207. It is a very handsome and commodious building.

XXX.—LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

161. There were three District Boards in the Division, which were reconstituted during the year under report. The area under their control was 6,641 square miles, with a population of 4,082,795 souls. The following table shows the number of members, and of meetings held by them, and their attendance at each meeting:—

Name of District Board.	Number of members.	Number of meetings.	Average attendance at each meeting.
Tippera ...	19	18	13·6
Noakhali ..	13	19	8·0
Chittagong ...	19	11	13·2

162. Each Board had the usual standing Committees for the preliminary consideration of questions to be decided by the Board.

163. The Sub-Committees held 44 meetings in Tippera, 38 in Noakhali, and 24 in Chittagong.

164. The income and expenditure of the District Boards during the year are shown below:—

	Income.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
Tippera	2,86,814	1,64,621
Noakhali	2,05,750	1,50,037
Chittagong	2,95,342	2,49,060

165. The District Board of Tippera is reported to have worked satisfactorily. Mr. Kennedy states that he has been much struck with the interest shown by the members, both at the general meetings, and in the work of the departmental Committees. As regards the District Board of Noakhali, Mr. Agasti remarks:—"The members of the District Board have worked harmoniously. They have seldom been divided in any matter, and have discharged their duties carefully and well." In Chittagong the members displayed great interest in the disposal of matters placed before them.

166. There were three Local Boards in the district of Tippera, and two in the district of Noakhali. The three Boards in the former district were reconstituted, and the two Boards in the latter were established, during the year. The Local Boards had 4,136 square miles, with a population of 2,792,628 souls, under their control. There was no Local Board in Chittagong.

167. The number of members of Local Boards, and of meetings held by them, and their average attendance at each meeting, are noted below :—

NAME OF DISTRICT.	Name of Local Board.	Number of members.	Number of meetings.	Average attendance at each meeting.
1	2	3	4	5
Tippera ...	Comilla ...	12	13	6.0
Ditto ...	Brahmanbaria ...	9	7	6.1
Ditto ...	Chandpur ...	7	13	4.7
Noakhali ...	Sadar (Noakhali)...	11	9	6.6
Ditto ...	Feni ...	9	8	6.9

168. The Local Boards have been entrusted for the present with the administration of water-supply, drainage, and village roads. They appear to have worked satisfactorily, but the information given on the subject is very meagre in all the district reports.

169. There were five village Unions in the district of Tippera, and four in the district of Noakhali were established during the year under report. They had under their control 107 square miles, with a population of 89,143 souls.

170. The number of members of Union Committees, and of meetings held by them, and their average attendance at each meeting, are recorded below :—

NAME OF DISTRICT.	Name of Union Committee.	Number of members.	Number of meetings.	Average attendance at each meeting.
1	2	3	4	5
Tippera ...	Laksam ...	5	4	3.0
Ditto ...	Sarail ...	5	4	2.5
Ditto ...	Nabinagar ...	5	6	3.0
Ditto ...	Chandpur ...	5	6	4.6
Ditto ...	Matlab ...	5	3	4.0
Noakhali ...	Hatia ...	6	2	3.8
Ditto ...	Lakhmipur ...	6	3	5.0
Ditto ...	Sandwip ...	6	4	5.6
Ditto ...	Feni ...	6	1	2.9

171. The Chairman of the Chandpur Local Board reports very favourably of the work done by the Chandpur and Matlab Union Committees. The Chairman of the Brahmanbaria Local Board also speaks well of the Sarail Union Committee, but not so of the one at Nabinagar, while the remarks of the Chairman of the Sadar Local Board are not encouraging. It would be premature to say anything about the working of the Union Committees in Noakhali, as they worked only for a part of the year.

172. There were five municipalities in this Division, with a total population within the municipal limits of 66,530, and the number of rate-payers was 12,511, or 18.8 per cent. of the population.

173. The question of the establishment of a municipality at Chandpur, in the district of Tippera, is under consideration.

174. The subjoined table shows the number of Commissioners of each municipality, and of the meetings held by them, and the percentage of their attendance at each meeting:—

NAME OF DISTRICT.	Name of Municipality.	Number of Commissioners.	Number of meetings.	Percentage of average attendance at each meeting.
1	2	3	4	5
Tippera ...	Comilla ...	18	17	47·0
Do. ...	Brahmanbaria ...	12	12	40·3
Noakhali ...	Noakhali ...	12	15	55·5
Chittagong ...	Chittagong ...	18	29	33·7
Ditto ...	Cox's Bazar ...	13	14	64·2

175. The elective system is in force in all the municipalities, except Cox's Bazar, where all the Commissioners are appointed by Government under section 17 of the Act. General elections took place in March last. The rate-payers took some interest in them, everywhere.

176. The following figures give the income and expenditure of each municipality:—

NAME OF DISTRICT.	Name of Municipality.	Income.	Expenditure.
1	2	3	4
		Ra.	Ra.
Tippera ...	Comilla ...	25,965	22,870
Do. ...	Brahmanbaria ..	7,427	7,966
Noakhali ...	Noakhali ...	6,406	5,709
Chittagong ...	Chittagong ...	54,386	49,431
Ditto ...	Cox's Bazar ..	7,455	5,483

177. Mr. Kennedy writes:—

"The Commissioners of the Comilla and Brahmanbaria Municipalities seem to take interest in their work, but the managements are not altogether satisfactory. The crying want in the Comilla Municipality is a proper drainage system. A scheme to improve the drainage was prepared and submitted to Government for sanction. It is standing over, nominally, pending the settlement of the important question of the outfall drainage; but, practically, the municipality has given up, for the time at least, all idea of interior drainage."

"The conservancy and the drainage of the Brahmanbaria town are unsatisfactory. The condition of the private privies is reported very bad, and it is essential that the latrine system should be introduced. To this the Municipal Commissioners, however, object, and decline to be moved."

178. The working of Part IX of the Act in the whole town of Noakhali commenced after the close of the year. Mr. Agasti has not offered any opinion as to the general working of the Noakhali Municipality.

179. The provisions of Part IX of the Act were introduced into the Chittagong Municipality by Government Notification No. 358T.M., dated the 20th June 1896, and operations were started partly in Wards B, C, and D from the 20th September following and the 1st January 1897. The native Municipal Commissioners, at a special meeting held on the 22nd February last, passed a resolution suspending the operation of Part IX, except in respect of persons who were willing to avail themselves of the benefit. This resolution was of course entirely *ultra vires*, and Government in its order No. 1650M., dated the 25th March last, directed that effect should be given to the provisions of Part IX within three months from the 1st April last. The work is now progressing.

180. The working of this municipality has been very unsatisfactory for years past. The rate-payers are strongly opposed to all improvement which entails additional taxation, and the elected Commissioners have, even when they were in favour of improvement themselves, been unwilling in many cases to destroy their chances of re-election by voting against the views of their constituents. Moreover, an unpopular Municipal Commissioner in Chittagong runs the risk, every dry season, of having his house burnt down. A Municipal Commissioner, whose house was recently burnt down, stated to an official his belief that the act was due to his being known to be in favour of the introduction of Part IX. "But," remarked the official, "you voted against the introduction of Part IX." "Yes," was the reply, "but they know I was really in favour of it all the same." The Chittagong version of a well-known proverb is—"Those who live in thatched houses should not vote for unpopular taxes."

181. I am afraid that the elective system is utterly unsuited to Chittagong. I should, however, like to give the present body of Municipal Commissioners a chance of showing that this view is wrong, and I, therefore, do not advocate its immediate withdrawal. They have recently elected Mr. Phillimore, I.C.S., as their Chairman, and this step appears to indicate a desire for an improved administration.

182. Mr. Skrine appears to have been a little premature last year in stating that the municipality had accepted a scheme for a water-supply from the hills. Their acceptance was conditional on the Assam-Bengal Railway agreeing to contribute the bulk of the interest on the initial outlay, in return for a water-supply. The question is now under the consideration of the Railway authorities. I believe the scheme to be a good one, and shall endeavour to carry it through.

183. The Cox's Bazar Municipality is a small one. Its income is chiefly spent in repairing roads and drains. It appears to have worked satisfactorily.

* . . . *

**RESOLUTION ON THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SALT DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR 1896-97.**

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT—SEPARATE REVENUE.

Darjeeling, the 13th September 1897.

RESOLUTION—No. 315T.—F.

READ—

The Report of the Board of Revenue on the Administration of the Salt Department for the year 1896-97.

During the year 1896-97, no administrative change was effected, but since its close, the sanction of the Government of India has been received to the re-transfer of the administration of the Orissa Salt Department from Madras to Bengal, and to the revision, re-enactment and extension to Orissa of the Bengal Salt Law, in place of the Indian Salt Act XII of 1882. The Salt Bill has been circulated for public and official criticism, and measures are being concerted, in correspondence with the Board of Revenue and the Madras Salt authorities, for giving effect to the other questions affecting the Salt Administration. The Government of India have also sanctioned the establishment of a special Preventive Service, to put a stop to the illicit manufacture of salt in certain districts bordering on the sea coast. Two additional private warehouses were established by Messrs. Turner, Morrison and Company, during the year, one at Narayanganj and the other at the Kidderpore Dock Basin.

2. The following statement shows the receipts and charges of the Salt Department during each of the last six years:—

HEADS.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	Increase in 1896-97, as compared with 1895-96.	Decrease in 1896-97, as compared with 1895-96.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
RECEIPTS.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
<i>Imperial—</i>								
1. Import duty on salt	2,39,34,019	2,40,16,650	2,36,63,962	2,44,41,000	2,47,07,703	2,48,06,040	1,59,153	...
2. Excise ditto	46,437	2,01,078	61,392	96,747	1,80,688	1,16,560	...	71,028
3. Sale price of salt and miscellaneous receipts in Orissa.	1,240	16,732	5,121	9,019	18,845	9,653	...	9,192
4. One-fourth value of stamps on applications for rowana.	3,421	3,216	3,130	3,210	3,180	3,445	265	...
Total ...	2,39,85,126	2,42,37,276	2,37,33,484	2,45,51,016	2,49,16,415	2,49,55,604	79,190	...
<i>Provincial—</i>								
5. Rent of warehouses	83,216	53,634	43,045	1,04,351	1,41,898	92,080	...	49,798
6. Rowana fees and the value of stamps on applications for rowana.	36,194	34,772	38,358	41,334	30,672*	42,552	2,880	...
7. Miscellaneous	1,708	6,747	5,316	5,165	6,353*	9,935	3,582	...
Total ...	1,21,112	94,153	86,719	1,50,850	1,87,913	1,44,576	...	43,337
TOTAL RECEIPTS ...	2,41,06,238	2,43,31,429	2,38,20,203	2,47,02,866	2,51,04,328	2,51,40,180	55,852	...
CHARGES.								
<i>Imperial—</i>								
8. Salaries, establishment and contingencies.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Compensation paid under convention with the French Government.	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	...	...
10. Refunds of customs duty on salt.	2,01,109	1,54,462	1,54,658	1,78,267	2,14,173	1,61,417	...	52,756
11. Charges of the Orissa Salt Department.	1,33,003	1,51,551	1,39,277	1,54,024	1,48,880	1,45,263	...	3,617
Total ...	3,64,112	3,26,015	3,33,935	3,52,291	3,83,053	3,50,480	...	56,573
<i>Provincial—</i>								
12. Salaries, warehouses and rewards.	51,608	1,24,505	20,838	52,220	53,834*	80,789	...	2,055
TOTAL CHARGES ...	4,05,720	4,50,520	3,54,773	4,04,511	4,36,887	3,77,479	...	55,408
Approximate nett Revenue ...	2,37,00,518	2,38,80,909	2,34,66,470	2,42,97,855	2,46,68,441*	2,47,92,701	94,280	...

* Revised figures.

3. The receipts show an increase of Rs. 35,852 over the collections of 1895-96, and the charges, a falling off of Rs. 58,408, thus giving a net increase of Rs. 94,260 in the revenue. As in the previous year, there was a decrease in the receipts from the import duty on salt at Calcutta, and a more than proportionate increase in the receipts from clearances at the outports and the warehousing stations in the interior. The revenue from excise salt shows a marked falling off, owing to reduced sales of salt at the Government factories in Orissa. There was also a considerable decrease in the proceeds from rent of warehouses, owing to many of the golas having remained unoccupied during the year, in consequence of heavy deliveries therefrom and smaller stocks in bond. These heavy deliveries were the result of the high prices of salt prevailing in the market during the year. The decrease of Rs. 58,408 in the expenditure, under both Imperial and Provincial, is mainly due to reduced refunds of customs duty on salt, and to a diminution in the charges incurred for the rent of warehouses, the hired sheds at Kidderpore being no longer required.

4. The following statement shows the fluctuations in the volume of the salt trade in Bengal during the last ten years, excluding salt imported by land from Ganjam and the Upper Provinces, on which duty is not paid in Bengal:—

The Salt Trade.

	1897-98.	1898-99.	1899-00.	1900-01.	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Opening stock { Sea-imported salt in bond ...	Mds. 8,40,318	Mds. 11,17,716	Mds. 1,09,640	Mds. 24,65,160	Mds. 24,97,402	Mds. 14,52,256	Mds. 7,19,316	Mds. 10,00,450	Mds. 34,54,202	Mds. 33,74,125
Excise salt in bond ...	1,04,735	37,078	1,46,630	1,33,861	59,200	37,938	20,150	10,197	1,70,904	2,70,000
Ditto in aurungs ...	440	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	10,14,629	11,64,794	20,46,288	25,99,021	25,56,701	14,90,194	7,39,475	10,70,650	36,31,106	36,44,125
Import and manufacture { Sea-imported ...	99,8,076	1,04,80,283	1,00,72,857	97,02,835	90,62,997	93,64,887	1,03,61,985	1,28,04,164	1,02,54,040	62,21,200
(Locally manufactured ...)	1,03,530	2,44,512	70,203	92,770	8,985	67,202	15,430	2,10,931	1,78,480	1,96,000
Total ...	1,00,80,636	1,07,24,797	1,01,43,150	97,95,605	90,61,982	94,32,089	1,03,77,415	1,30,15,095	1,04,32,520	64,17,200
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,11,04,164	1,18,79,691	1,21,90,438	1,24,24,932	1,16,18,773	1,09,32,233	1,11,10,890	1,31,31,451	1,40,64,206	1,30,61,325
Clearances { Sea-imported salt from ship board ...	75,86,835	69,46,307	68,14,773	65,87,471	59,00,244	63,47,425	60,65,233	69,40,855	64,64,797	44,92,125
Sea-imported salt from bond ...	20,06,782	20,08,113	36,40,803	31,08,002	41,31,601	37,10,170	38,09,085	34,81,646	39,01,683	59,00,000
Excise salt from bond ...	1,82,860	1,25,616	81,086	1,30,572	18,800	81,320	24,400	38,715	74,033	46,200
Imported from Ennore Circle in Madras ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Passed free of duty ...	2,000	2,234	2,202	2,331	4,231	3,024	2,983	1,150	4,069	3,000
Removed under section 105 of the Customs Act ...	.....	27,422	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
In transit under bond ...	.....	1,500	5,000	15,706	.....	.....	.....	.....	7,900	.....
Confiscated salt sold ...	3,170	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	98,81,676	98,01,692	95,52,854	98,74,076	1,00,56,862	1,01,41,048	99,03,712	1,04,02,368	1,04,52,880	1,04,90,125
Wastage, or destroyed Quantity on which duty was paid, but not removed from gola ...	47,160	32,211	37,257	30,703	60,119	50,030	46,522	57,979	72,544	1,05,000
Quantity re-entered in gola ...	25	.....	.....	2,628	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	47,185	32,211	37,257	33,331	60,119	50,030	46,522	57,979	72,544	1,05,000
Add or deduct to adjust errors ...	+20,503	.....	.....	-25,956	+2,028	+900	.....	.....	.....	.....
GRAND TOTAL ...	99,40,370	98,33,303	95,29,111	98,15,141	1,01,29,609	1,02,02,778	1,00,40,234	1,03,60,345	1,05,25,430	1,05,95,125
Closing stock { Sea-imported salt in bond ...	11,17,716	18,90,440	24,65,160	24,97,402	14,52,256	7,19,316	10,00,450	34,54,202	32,68,157	10,61,710
Excise salt in bond ...	37,078	1,46,630	1,33,861	59,200	37,938	20,150	10,197	1,70,904	2,70,019	4,18,000
Ditto aurungs ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	11,54,794	20,40,288	25,99,021	25,56,701	14,90,194	7,39,475	10,70,650	36,31,106	35,38,176	14,79,710

* Revised figures.

The stock of salt in the golas, which, according to revised figures, amounted at the close of the preceding year to over 36 lakhs of maunds, fell at the end of the year under review to 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs; but besides this quantity, there were 2,05,829 maunds, against 1,602 in 1895-96, lying afloat in the port of Calcutta, ready to be sold direct to purchasers. This reduction of stock is attributed to the high prices prevailing in the market, and the consequent heavy deliveries of salt from the golas.

5. The combined imports into Calcutta and Chittagong show a net decrease of 20,34,651 maunds, or 19·8 per cent., as compared with the previous year, owing to the falling off in imports from European ports. The Collector of Customs, states that this

Imports.

decrease was caused by the difficulty anticipated by owners of ships carrying salt in obtaining outward freight, in consequence of the prevailing scarcity; while the reduced importation from Liverpool and Hamburg is said to be due to the growing competition of salt in crystals imported from the Red Sea ports and crushed in Calcutta. The remarkable falling off of 4,65,544 maunds, or 89·3 per cent., at Chittagong is attributed by the Collector of Customs to the high market rate of salt in the United Kingdom, and the unsteady condition of the Calcutta market, which checked speculative purchases by local bidders. The following statement shows the different countries and ports from which shipments of salt were made:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	Percentage of quantity imported for each group in 1894-95.	Percentage of quantity imported for each group in 1895-96.	Percentage of quantity imported for each group in 1896-97.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.			
I. United Kingdom	75,03,440	63,94,308	44,81,722	58·3	62·4	54·62
II. Hamburg	17,53,698	11,13,110	8,06,408	13·6	10·8	7·41
III. Trieste ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
IV. Mozambique ... ..	.....	21	.....	.....	.....	.....
V. Aden ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
VI. Rio de Janeiro ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
VII. Has Rawayoh	8,67,829	1,19,870	6,41,407	.....	.....	.....
VIII. Muscat and other States	4,35,664	3,35,680	2,85,624	.....	.....	.....
IX. Aden	11,38,547	7,81,877	10,79,629	22·5	22·7	31·18
X. Panjam	2,78,151	2,67,891	1,96,371	.....	.....	.....
XI. Linga	1,76,017	99,534	1,75,984	.....	.....	.....
XII. Muhammad Goul ... ..	.....	7,24,115	2,44,707	.....	.....	.....
XIII. Madras	22,750	2,033	24,179	.....	.....	.....
XIV. Bombay	6,88,978	4,17,629	5,41,940	5·4	4·1	6·50
Total ...	1,28,08,877	1,02,55,061	82,30,410	100·0	100·0	100·0

The development of the trade in salt from Aden and the Red Sea ports is indicated by the fact, that while the consumption of Liverpool and Hamburg salt indicated by 11,89,246 and 5,84,692 maunds, respectively, during the year, there was an increase of over 16½ lakhs in the consumption of karkach salt imported from the Red Sea ports and crushed at the golas, and imported ready crushed from Aden. This salt, besides being intrinsically cheaper than any European salt; can be placed in the market at a lower price, because the steamers carrying cargoes from the Red Sea escape the canal dues.

6. Excluding 1,81,050 maunds of Bombay and Madras salt cleared free of duty in Calcutta, duty was paid on 43,11,475 maunds cleared from shipboard, against 63,42,204 in the previous year, while the clearances from bond rose from 35,06,411 to 55,49,433 maunds. On the whole, the total clearances of all kinds, including those of Bombay and Madras salt and of excise salt, rose from 1,04,41,017 to 1,04,77,213 maunds.

7. Deducting from the above clearances the excess of exports from Bengal by land and river over the imports by the same routes, amounting to 7,82,105 maunds, and adding 38,631 maunds of saltpetre salt brought into use, the balance of salt left for consumption in the Province rose from 95,67,463 maunds in 1895-96 to 97,33,739 maunds in 1896-97. The rate of consumption per head was 5 seers, against 4 seers 15 chitaks in 1895-96. In the saliferous districts, excluding Orissa, there was a net decrease of 31,115 maunds in the consumption of licit salt, and the average consumption per head fell from 5 seers 2 chitaks to 4 seers 14 chitaks. The lowest rates prevailed in the 24-Parganas (4 seers 2 chitaks) and Midnapore (4 seers 9 chitaks), although the latter district shows an increase of consumption as compared with the previous year. The large decrease in the 24-Parganas (24,089 maunds) is attributed partly to the impoverished condition of the people owing to scarcity of food and water, and partly to the illicit manufacture of salt in the Sandarbans. The report of Babu Madhu Sudhan Chaudri, Assistant Superintendent of Police, who was specially appointed by Government to investigate the question of illicit manufacture in the latter tract, places it beyond doubt that such manufacture

is conducted on a large scale in the southern portion of the 24-Parganas for the purpose of sale, that the loss of revenue thereby caused is considerable, and that systematic and stringent measures to protect the salt revenue are required. This question is now receiving the Board's attention, in connection with the general scheme for the creation of a special Preventive Service for the saliferous tracts in Bengal. In Orissa, the consumption per head rose from 9.25 lbs. to 9.92 lbs. Various causes, which do not call for special notice, are assigned for the decline in consumption in the remaining salt-producing districts.

8. The price of salt was generally higher than in the previous year, the increase being due to the decline in the imports during the year. In explanation of the rise in the price of imported salt, the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, makes the following remarks:—

“There was a general impression in the past year that larger importations would tend to swell the stocks in bond, and to reduce the prices to an unremunerative level. The total importations, however, fell short of the demand, and salt in bond had to be resorted to for the purpose of meeting requirements for internal consumption. This had the effect of raising prices from Rs. 54 and Rs. 47 in 1895-96 to Rs. 73 and Rs. 75 during the past year for Liverpool panga and Hamburg salt, respectively, and of enabling bonders, some of whom had stocks in bond for upwards of two years, to clear them at profitable rates.”

The average wholesale price (exclusive of duty) of 100 maunds of Liverpool salt, purchased from the ship's side in the port of Calcutta, rose from Rs. 57-14 to Rs. 96-0-9, an increase of six annas and one pie per maund; while the selling price, which in 1895-96 had varied from Rs. 81-2-4 to Rs. 44-5-6, ranged during the past year from Rs. 124-3 to Rs. 71-15-8. The average wholesale price, inclusive of duty, at the nine chief marts of Bengal, rose from Rs. 3-9-11 to Rs. 3-13-9 per maund. The corresponding average, based on the wholesale prices of all the districts in Bengal, rose from Rs. 3-11-1 to Rs. 3-15-6 per maund.

9. The total imports from Madras, the Upper Provinces and Assam of duty-paid salt, rose from 3,83,940 to 5,15,969 maunds, during the year, the increase being due partly to larger importations from Ganjam, and partly to the higher prices of sea-imported salt. For the latter reason the exports from Bengal to Assam and Northern India fell from 11,07,330 to 10,64,101 maunds, but this decrease was more than counterbalanced by the increase of 49,708 maunds in the exports to Foreign States beyond the northern border, and of 137 maunds in the exports to the Central Provinces and Madras. The net result was an excess of exports over imports of 7,82,105 maunds, against 9,07,518 in 1895-96.

10. The number of cases in which contraband salt was confiscated, including cases that occurred in the Orissa districts, rose from 504 to 1,056 during the past year, and the quantity of salt confiscated from 161 to 702 maunds. In Midnapore, there were 41 cases, against 59, and the quantity confiscated amounted to 4-3-13 maunds, against 10-17-7 maunds in the previous year. Of the entire quantity attached (64-3-13 maunds), 37-15 seers were seized in cases of illicit manufacture, and 63-5-14 maunds in cases of illicit possession and transport. In the 24-Parganas, the number of cases in which salt was confiscated fell from 118 to 105, but the quantity confiscated rose from 21 to 58 maunds, 17 maunds having been seized for illicit manufacture and 41 maunds for illicit possession and transport. The general scarcity during the year, and the attendant distress among the lower classes, is said to have caused the considerable increase in these cases detected in the two salt producing districts of Chittagong and Noakhali. In Orissa, the number of cases in which salt was confiscated rose from 164 to 725, and the quantity confiscated from 32 to 587 maunds. The total number of cases instituted in the courts throughout Bengal was 905, against 506 in the preceding year. The large increase of 417 cases in Orissa is attributed by the Board partly to scarcity and the consequent distress, and partly to stricter supervision on the part of the salt officers. The cases sent up for trial with evidence of illicit manufacture in the Orissa districts numbered 489, of which 110 were for the possession of earth-salt, 2 for the possession of salt-earth, and 377 for the possession of brine. Altogether, there were 1,097 seizures and 86 unsuc-

cessful searches in the salt-bearing tracts during the year, against 487 and 101, respectively, in the previous year. Of 926 persons apprehended, 819 were convicted. Rewards were disbursed to the amount of Rs. 3,856.

11. As usual, a separate portion of the Board's Report deals with the administration of the Salt Department in Orissa, which, as noticed above, will shortly be re-transferred to the Government of Bengal. In last year's Resolution it was remarked that the decision of the question whether the Government salt factories on the Chilka Lake, which had not been working successfully, should be abandoned, would be deferred until the close of the manufacturing season then current, and until it was known what effect the East Coast Railway would have on the sales of salt manufactured at these factories. In consideration, however, of the scarcity that prevailed in the country bordering on the Chilka Lake, it was decided that, for the present, the operations at the factories should be continued, but only on such a scale as would give reasonable employment to the landless classes and to the cultivators whose crops have failed. The question whether the manufacture of salt at the lake should be permanently continued, will be further considered when the transfer of the Orissa salt administration has been carried into effect. The receipts of the Orissa Salt Department fell from Rs. 2,05,433 to Rs. 1,25,213, and the expenditure from Rs. 1,48,880 to Rs. 1,45,263. The decrease in receipts is attributed by the Board to the fall in the sale of locally-manufactured salt, owing chiefly to the temporary diversion of the trade to the Naupada factory in the Madras Presidency, where salt was sold at a lower price. The following statement shows the consumption of salt during the last five years, and its rate per head of the population:—

YEAR.	Sold from local manufac- tories.	Imported from Calcutta.	Imported from Ganjam.	Total consumption.	Rate per head.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1892-93	Mds. 81,329	Mds. 2,76,408	Mds. 3,37,423	Mds. 6,95,160	Lbs. 9·82
1893-94	24,460	2,85,934	4,48,923	7,59,317	10·65
1894-95	38,715	2,75,764	3,51,714	6,66,193	9·28
1895-96	74,635	2,99,836	2,94,326	6,68,797	9·25
1896-97	46,224	2,80,785	3,95,196	7,22,205	9·92

12. The thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor are again due to the Board for their administration of the Department.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

C. E. A. W. OLDHAM,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

STOCKS OF RICE IN AND AROUND CALCUTTA.

No. 2624 Stats.—The following is published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Statement showing the Stocks of Rice in and around Calcutta during September 1897.

Stock in hand as compiled on—

NAMES OF MARKS.								
1st week of Sept. 1896. Mds.	2nd week of Aug. 1897. Mds.	3rd week of Aug. 1897. Mds.	4th week of Aug. 1897. Mds.	4th week of Aug. 1897. Mds.	1st week of Sept. 1897. Mds.	2nd week of Sept. 1897. Mds.	3rd week of Sept. 1897. Mds.	
3,27,000	2,29,500	1,93,000	1,98,000	1,88,000	1,27,000	1,26,000	1,36,000	...
53,400	18,700	22,500	21,700	23,600	15,500	13,500	12,700	...
5,17,800	1,72,100	1,68,300	1,61,700	1,60,300	1,34,100	1,27,100	1,20,500	...
1,000	2,300	2,000	1,900	1,400	1,450	1,100	1,200	...
1,55,100	75,200	74,000	75,600	75,700	73,700	77,100	75,200	...
2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,43,000	...
2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	...
.....	69,200	68,200	69,200	66,000	47,100	50,500	75,700	...
27,499	11,425	61,875	7,188	8,428	4,175	3,247	3,463	...
15,71,799	10,52,952	10,79,875	10,10,288	10,08,428	8,83,025	8,88,547	9,14,762	...
14,861 (on 3rd Sept. 1896).	1,34,535 (on 7th Aug. 1897).	2,64,851 (on 14th August 1897).	3,43,061 (on 21st August 1897).	3,35,698 (on 28th August 1897).	2,21,706 (on 4th Sept. 1897).	1,97,004 (on 11th Sept. 1897).	1,99,295 (on 18th Sept. 1897).	On Railway premises on both sides of the river.†
62,342 (1st to 3rd Sept. 1896).	23,163 (7th to 9th Aug. 1897).	23,051 (14th to 16th Aug. 1897).	26,830 (21st to 23rd Aug. 1897).	28,804 (28th to 31st Aug. 1897).	23,826 (4th to 6th Sept. 1897).	37,604 (11th to 13th Sept. 1897).	25,920 (18th to 20th Sept. 1897).	On boats not yet unloaded— By Port Commissioners' returns
9,219 (1st to 3rd Sept. 1896).	6,489 (31st July to 2nd Aug. 1897).	6,936 (14th to 16th Aug. 1897).	5,891 (21st to 23rd Aug. 1897).	9,044 (28th to 30th Aug. 1897).	13,085 (4th to 6th Sept. 1897).	10,175 (11th to 13th Sept. 1897).	12,722 (18th to 20th Sept. 1897).	By Canal returns
16,58,221	11,97,270	13,74,713	13,86,070	13,81,974	11,51,642	11,33,330	11,52,699	Grand Total of Stocks

* This mart is in the Howrah district, and the figures have been obtained by local enquiry.

† Figures furnished by the Collector of Hooghly.

‡ Ditto by the Railway authorities.

(1) Estimated as a constant quantity.

M. FINUCANE,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

**STATISTICS OF THE SEA-BORNE TRAFFIC OF CALCUTTA
IN FOOD-GRAINS.**

No. 2623 Statistics.—The following memorandum and statements are published for general information.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 21st September 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Memorandum.

The sea-borne import and export traffic of Calcutta in food-grains during the week ending the 7th September 1896, and the corresponding period of 1897, is shown in the following statement:—

		1ST TO 7TH SEPTEMBER			
		1896.		1897.	
1		2	3	4	5
<i>Imports.</i>		Cwts.	Mds.	Cwts.	Mds.
From Foreign Ports	...	.....	...	3,696	5,031
" Indian "	...	55,676	75,781	50,043	68,114
Total	...	55,676	75,781	53,739	73,145
<i>Exports.</i>					
To Foreign Ports	...	47,238	64,296	12,550	17,082
" Indian "	...	13,473	18,338	12,076	16,437
Total	...	60,711	82,634	24,626	33,519

Imports.—The staples comprising the import traffic are shown in the table below, and the figures for the period are compared with those for the corresponding period of last year:—

		1ST TO 7TH SEPTEMBER			
		1896.		1897.	
1		2	3	4	5
<i>Food-grains.</i>		Cwts.	Mds.	Cwts.	Mds.
Rice	...	37,964	51,673	42,683	58,096
Paddy	...	8,881	12,088	5,704	7,764
Wheat	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gram and pulses	...	8,831	12,020	5,202	7,081
Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	...	.....	.....	150	204
Total	...	55,676	75,781	53,739	73,145

Imports.—During the period under report, the imports of rice amounted to 42,683 cwts., against 37,964 cwts. in the first week of September 1896. The amount imported from Burma was 25,741 cwts., and that from the Straits Settlements 1,688 cwts., both against nil in the corresponding period of last year. Shipments of rice from Chandbali fell off from 33,289 cwts. to 9,286 cwts., while those from Balasore increased by 1,307 cwts. The imports of paddy came chiefly from Chandbali, Balasore, and the Straits Settlements. The decrease under the head of gram and pulses amounted to 3,629 cwts., owing chiefly to smaller shipments from Coconada and Chandbali. Hongkong and the Straits Settlements, however, contributed 1,132 cwts., against nil in the corresponding period of last year.

Exports.—In the following statement the total quantity of each kind of food-grain exported by sea during the week ending 7th September 1897 is compared with that for the corresponding period of 1896:—

1	1st to 7th SEPTEMBER			
	1896.		1897.	
	2	3	4	5
<i>Food-grains.</i>	Cwts.	Mds.	Cwts.	Mds.
Rice	40,857	55,611	12,707	16,296
Paddy	735	1,000	.....	.....
Wheat	371	505	3,367	4,583
Gram and pulses	18,551	25,250	8,449	11,500
Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	197	268	103	140
Total ...	60,711	82,634	24,626	33,519

The exports of rice from Calcutta to foreign ports declined from 37,348 cwts. in the first week of September 1896 to 12,134 cwts. in the period under report, owing chiefly to a decline in the exports to Ceylon, which received only 1,601 cwts., against 24,299 cwts. in the corresponding period of last year. The decrease under gram and pulses was chiefly due to the cessation of exports to the United Kingdom, which took 4,444 cwts. in the corresponding period of 1896, and the exports to Ceylon showed a falling-off of 3,611 cwts.

As regards Indian ports, the exports of rice during the first week of September 1896 amounted to 3,509 cwts., against 573 cwts. in the period under report. The shipments for Bombay were nil, against 2,037 cwts. in the first week of September 1896. Under wheat there was an increase in the shipments to Rangoon, which received 2,613 cwts., against 220 cwts. in the same period last year.

Detailed statements showing the sources of supply and the places of destination, both as regards Foreign and Indian ports, are given below:—

Statement No. I, showing the Imports of Food-grains into Calcutta from Foreign and Indian Ports during the week ending 7th September 1896 and 1897.

Ports.		Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	Total.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>From Indian Ports.</i>		Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.
Madras	Madras { 1896 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	... { 1897 ...	880	...	...	...	...	880
	Bimlipatam { 1896 ...	552	...	...	...	...	552
	... { 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Colingapatam { 1896 ...	...	...	...	684	...	684
	... { 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Coconada { 1896 ...	...	...	...	6,132	...	6,132
	... { 1897 ...	1	...	...	2,940	160	3,091
	Gopalpur { 1896 ...	293	...	...	7	...	300
	... { 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Burma	Rangoon { 1896 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	... { 1897 ...	14,872	...	...	...	...	14,872
	Moulmein { 1896 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	... { 1897 ...	10,869	...	...	...	...	10,869
Balasore	Balasore { 1896 ...	3,830	1,303	...	...	...	5,033
	... { 1897 ...	5,137	1,264	...	393	...	6,724
	Chandbali { 1896 ...	38,289	7,678	...	2,008	...	42,975
	... { 1897 ...	9,286	8,574	...	797	...	18,607
Total Indian Ports { 1896 ...		37,964	8,881	...	8,831	...	55,676
... { 1897 ...		40,996	4,828	...	4,070	160	50,043
<i>From Foreign Ports.</i>							
China—Hong-Kong { 1896 ...		...	...	...	...	...	...
... { 1897 ...		...	...	...	235	...	235
Straits Settlements { 1896 ...		...	...	...	...	...	...
... { 1897 ...		1,688	876	...	897	...	3,461
Total Foreign Ports { 1896 ...		...	...	...	...	...	...
... { 1897 ...		1,688	876	...	1,132	...	3,696
GRAND TOTAL OF { 1896 ...		37,964	8,881	...	8,831	...	55,676
FOREIGN AND IN- { 1897 ...		42,683	5,704	...	5,202	160	53,739
DIAN PORTS							

Statement No. II, showing the Exports of Food-grains from Calcutta to Foreign and Indian Ports during the week ending 7th September 1896 and 1897.

Ports.				Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	Total.
1				2	3	4	5	6	7
To Foreign Ports.				Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.
United Kingdom	...	{ 1896	1,572	.....	.....	.....	4,444	.....	6,016
	...	{ 1897	2,001	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,001
{ Cape Town	...	{ 1896	3,326	.....	147	147	.....	.....	3,620
	...	{ 1897	1,863	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,863
{ Port Elizabeth	...	{ 1896	2,132	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,132
	...	{ 1897	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
{ East London	...	{ 1896	111	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	111
	...	{ 1897	184	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	184
{ Algoa Bay	...	{ 1896	1,090	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,090
	...	{ 1897	2,054	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,054
{ Mossel Bay	...	{ 1896	1,843	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,843
	...	{ 1897	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
{ Eastern coast of Africa.	{ Other Ports	{ 1896	740	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	740
	...	{ 1897	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mauritius	...	{ 1896	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	...	{ 1897	733	.....	.....	.....	29	.....	762
Natal	...	{ 1896	1,439	.....	.....	.....	686	187	2,312
	...	{ 1897	3,102	.....	.....	.....	221	5	3,328
Aden	...	{ 1896	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	...	{ 1897	479	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	479
Arabia—Maskat	...	{ 1896	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	...	{ 1897	73	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	73
Ceylon	...	{ 1896	24,299	37	.....	3,658	.....	.....	27,994
	...	{ 1897	1,601	.....	.....	47	.....	.....	1,648
China—Hongkong	...	{ 1896	17	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	23
	...	{ 1897	.....	.....	15	10	.....	.....	25
Persia	...	{ 1896	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	...	{ 1897	44	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44
Straits Settlements	...	{ 1896	1	.....	.....	245	.....	.....	246
	...	{ 1897	.....	.....	.....	73	16	.....	89
New South Wales	...	{ 1896	670	.....	.....	210	.....	.....	880
	...	{ 1897	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Victoria	...	{ 1896	.....	.....	.....	41	.....	.....	41
	...	{ 1897	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fiji Islands	...	{ 1896	108	.....	.....	82	.....	.....	190
	...	{ 1897	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total Foreign Ports				{ 1896	37,348	37	147	9,619	47,238
				{ 1897	12,134	.....	15	380	12,550

PORTS.				Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	Total.	
1				2	3	4	5	6	7	
To Indian Ports.				Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	
Bombay	...	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	2,037	22	...	44	...	2,103
Madras	{	Madras	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	5,043 6,525	...	5,043 7,167
		Calicut	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	220	...	220
		Calingapatam	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	7	8	...	15
		Coconada	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	96	...	96
		Cochin	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	475	...	475 440
		Cuddalore	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	3
		Gopalpur	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	18	...	18
		Negapatam	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	807 146	...	807 146
		Tuticorin	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	7
		Burma	{	Rangoon	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	685 133	676	220 2,613	2,008 918	9 82	3,598 3,746
Akyab	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...			...	...	...	88 71	1	98 71
Kyauk Phyoo	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...			...	...	...	1 7	...	2 7
Moulmein	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...			...	...	...	218 125	...	218 125
	Chittagong			{ 1896 ... 1897	4 180	...	441 180
Balasore	{	Balasore	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	20 40	...	20 40
		Chandbali	{ 1896 ... 1897	4 72	3 49	...	22 121
Nicobar	...	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Travancore—Allepey	...	...	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	...	...	...	...	...	220
Total Indian Ports				{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	3,509 678	698	224 3,352	9,032 8,069	10 82	13,473 12,076
GRAND TOTAL OF FOREIGN AND INDIAN PORTS.				{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	40,867 12,707	735	371 3,367	18,551 8,449	197 103	60,711 24,626

STATISTICS OF THE SEA-BORNE TRAFFIC OF THE MINOR PORTS IN BENGAL IN FOOD-GRAINS.

No. 2622 Statistics.—The following memorandum and statements are published for general information.

STATISTICAL DEPT.,
The 21st September 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Memorandum.

THE comparative statements below give statistics of the import and export trade of the minor ports of Chittagong, Narayanganj, Balasore (including both Balasore and Chandbali), Cuttack, and Puri during the ten days ending 31st August 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896:—

IMPORTS.

Ports			From Foreign ports.	From Indian ports.	Total.	
			Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Mds.
Chittagong	1896	...	.....	1,057	1,057	1,439
	1897	...	.....	5,685	5,685	7,738
Narayanganj	1896	...	.....	2,057	2,057	2,800
	1897	...	.....	435	435	592
Balasore ports...	1896	...	.....	1,133	1,133	1,542
	1897	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cuttack	1896	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1897	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puri	1896	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1897	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	1896	...	.....	1,492	1,492	2,031
	1897	...	.....	8,875	8,875	12,080

EXPORTS.

Ports			To Foreign ports.	To Indian ports.	Total.	
			Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Mds.
Chittagong	1896	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1897	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Narayanganj	1896	...	.....	405	405	551
	1897	...	.....	242	242	329
Balasore ports...	1896	...	.....	54,286	54,286	78,889
	1897	...	.....	21,131	21,131	28,762
Cuttack	1896	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1897	...	1,027	2,082	3,109	4,232
Puri	1896	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1897	...	11,945	323	12,268	16,698
Total	1896	...	.....	54,691	54,691	74,440
	1897	...	12,972	23,778	36,750	50,021

During the ten days under report, the total imports of rice into Chittagong amounted to 5,344 cwts., the whole of which came from Burma, against nil in the same period of 1896. As regards exports, Narayanganj received 2,057 cwts., against nil in the corresponding period of last year. The import trade of Balasore ports improved by 698 cwts. owing to receipts of wheat and miscellaneous food-grains from Calcutta, against nil in the same period of 1896. Chiefly on account of smaller consignments of rice and paddy to Calcutta, the export trade of those ports fell off by 33,155 cwts. The exports of rice from False Point amounted to 3,109 cwts., of which 2,082 cwts. were despatched to Cochin and the rest to Colombo, against nil in the corresponding period of last year. Colombo also received 11,945 cwts. of rice from Puri, against nil in the last ten days of August 1896.

Detailed statements showing the sources of supply and the places of destination, both as regards Foreign and Indian ports, are given below:—

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains imported into Chittagong from each Foreign and Indian Port during the ten days ending 31st August 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS FROM WHICH IMPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		TOTAL.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Foreign Ports.</i>	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.
Nil	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
<i>Indian Ports.</i>												
Burma { Akyah	.....	3,715	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,715
Rangoon	.....	1,620	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,620
Calcutta	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	231	171	110	83	361	253
Narayanganj	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	716	89	.....	.....	716	89
Total	.....	5,344	.....	.....	.....	.....	947	260	110	82	1,067	5,695

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains imported into Narayanganj from each Foreign and Indian Port during the ten days ending 31st August 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS FROM WHICH IMPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		TOTAL.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Foreign Ports.</i>	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.
Nil	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
<i>Indian Port.</i>												
Chittagong	.....	2,067	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,067
Total	.....	2,067	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,067

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains exported from Narayanganj to each Foreign and Indian Port during the ten days ending 31st August 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS TO WHICH EXPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		Total.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Foreign Port.</i>	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.
Nil	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
<i>Indian Port.</i>												
Chittagong	.....	147	.....	.....	.....	.....	258	243	.....	.....	405	243
Total	.....	147	.....	.....	.....	.....	258	243	.....	.....	405	243

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains exported from Puri to each Foreign and Indian Port during the ten days ending 31st August 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS TO WHICH EXPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		Total.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Foreign Ports.</i>	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Colombo ... ..	...	11,945	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,945
<i>Indian Port.</i>												
Bombay ... ..	...	323	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	323
Total ... ..	...	12,268	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,268

EXPORTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

No. 2625 Statistics.—The following statement shows the quantity of rice and other food-grains exported by the East Indian Railway from Calcutta and Howrah during the period from 1st January to 11th September 1897, both days inclusive, to have been 94,05,395 maunds. The destination of 91,97,515 maunds is specified. Of this quantity 30,23,187 maunds were carried to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, 40,14,294 maunds to stations in Bengal, 14,37,825 maunds to the Central Provinces, and the rest 7,22,209 maunds to other provinces. In the last week of the period, 11,482 maunds were exported to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and 45,433 maunds to Bihar.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 21st September 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Statement showing the quantities of rice and other food-grains exported from Howrah and Calcutta (Chitpur Kidderpore Docks, and Port Trust Railway) by the East Indian Railway, from 1st January to 11th September 1897.

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNEED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
BENGAL.					
<i>Hooghly.</i>					
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Hooghly ...	...	...	...	839	...
Tarakeswar ...	2,122	...	...	...	...
Chandernagore ...	109	...	...	...	...
Dasghora ...	2	...	...	...	...
Pandua ...	14	...	...	...	...
Bainchi ...	17	...	...	...	...
Bhadreswar ...	664	...	...	...	...
Total ...	2,928	...	...	839	...
<i>Burdwan.</i>					
Memari ...	163	...	...	...	...
Rasulpur ...	4	...	...	...	...
Burdwan ...	1,094	...	889	...	...
Raniganj ...	9,653	8,972	1,572	114	881
Sitarampur ...	10	...	...	...	...
Ghuskara ...	103	...	...	...	...
Kanu Junction ...	849	...	...	...	...
Mankar ...	...	99	61	...	...
Asansol ...	...	...	523	...	...
Total ...	11,376	4,071	2,545	114	881
<i>Birbhum.</i>					
Murairai ...	878	...	...	...	...
Bolpur ...	2	101	1,261	...	159
Sainthia ...	1	...	203	148	...
Rampur Hât ...	683	...	...	...	...
Ahmadpur ...	302	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,866	101	1,364	148	159
<i>Nadia.</i>					
Mirpur ...	7,218	965	...	...	...
Chuadanga ...	8,998	3,670	378	...	...
Kushtia ...	17,613	2,841	...	...	847
Alamdanga ...	5,275	2,202	...	...	...
Bhairamara ...	6,407	1,001	...	...	...
Damukdia ...	9,349	10,244	924	...	383
Bagula ...	8,819	849	...	...	...
Kumarkhali ...	3,236	378	...	882	...
Khoksa ...	1,528	...	...	...	...
Total ...	58,743	21,650	1,302	382	730
<i>Jessore.</i>					
Jessore ...	1,014	740	...	...	...
Singia ...	2,478	12,788	...	...	...
Total ...	3,492	13,528	...	...	...
<i>Murshidabad.</i>					
Azimganj ...	6,277	3,018	1,929	...	880
Jiaganj ...	1,930	8,770	1,503	...	...
Dhulian ...	...	747	2,638	...	...
Jangipur ...	...	878	377	...	...
Total ...	8,207	7,913	6,447	...	880

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
BENGAL— contd.					
<i>Rajshahi.</i>	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Malanchi ...	1,413	529	...	...	152
Atrai ...	...	...	2,083	...	...
Raninagar ...	...	...	1,054	...	...
Neter ...	...	...	189	...	...
Total ...	1,413	529	3,326	...	152
<i>Dinajpur.</i>					
Dinajpur ...	373	2,417	343	...	...
<i>Rangpur.</i>					
Saidpur ...	767	829	...	...	...
Kurigram ...	109	...	...	...	...
Lalmonir Hat ...	55	...	...	...	...
Domer ...	685	100	...	223	...
Kaunia ...	373	...	...	...	...
Kaliganj ...	770	...	...	...	...
Total ...	2,759	929	...	223	...
Cooch Behar ...	20,763	373	754	...	...
<i>Jalpaiguri.</i>					
Dam-Dim ...	...	100	...	...	...
Mandalghat ...	400	300	...	203	...
Haldibari ...	3,037	628	339	...	269
Jalpaiguri ...	25,224	13,448	1,820	2,396	600
Ramshai Hat ...	4,493	376	749	...	...
Mal Bazar ...	2,909	223	100	101	...
Belakoba ...	101	...	...	...	...
Chalsa Road Ghat ...	...	1,511	1,481	452	...
Total ...	36,004	16,586	4,439	3,152	899
<i>Darjeeling.</i>					
Sonada ...	522	2,098	215	...	...
Siliguri ...	5,395	7,067	1,724	436	1,113
Ghoom ...	2,611	2,631	349	...	152
Darjeeling ...	2,931	4,684	1,914	...	405
Kurseong ...	4,493	7,037	750	300	607
Rangtang ...	383	...	...	...	...
Gyabari ...	...	880	380	...	...
Mahanadi ...	...	...	386	...	...
Total ...	16,335	23,837	5,718	736	2,277
<i>Bogra.</i>					
Akelpur ...	...	2,855	2,118	...	532
Jaipur Hat ...	...	4,482	1,174	...	102
Jamalganj ...	...	2,072	100	...	204
Hili ...	...	130	...	...	...
Sultanpur ...	...	...	4,093	206	...
Total ...	...	9,539	7,490	206	838
<i>Pabna.</i>					
Sirajganj ...	6,295	...	760	381	765
<i>Dacca.</i>					
Munshiganj ...	...	1,591	...	...	...
Dacca ...	380	...	...	...	...
Narayanganj ...	...	...	...	...	131
Total ...	380	1,591	...	...	131

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNEED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
BENGAL— consolid.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Faridpur.</i>					
Pangsa ...	7,257	1,769	470	...	...
Rajbari ...	7,571	...	...	...	...
Goalundo ...	11,414	2,300	2,532	1,106	708
Pachuria ...	1,374	377	...	2,986	...
Total ...	27,616	4,446	3,002	4,092	708
<i>Backergunge.</i>					
Jhalokati ...	...	...	...	2,279	649
<i>Khulna.</i>					
Phultala ...	360	541	754	...	...
Nawapara ...	...	...	200	...	...
Khulna ...	...	...	...	...	108
Total ...	360	541	954	...	108
TOTAL OF BENGAL	1,98,470	1,08,056	88,444	12,047	8,142
CHOTA NAG- PUR.					
<i>Hazaribagh.</i>					
Giridih ...	16,484	5,681	1,116	...	...
<i>Mandhum.</i>					
Purulia ...	2,972	3,602	1,466	1,450	...
Bulrampur ...	722	1,591	...	...	...
Barakar ...	156	482	371	...	...
Pradhan Khanta ...	2,377	762	2,458	...	...
Katrasgarh ...	101	...	...	...	...
Anara ...	...	...	138	...	...
Adra ...	...	...	126	...	...
Kalubathan ...	...	...	762	...	...
Total ...	6,828	6,437	5,816	1,450	...
<i>Singbhum.</i>					
Chakradharpur ...	31	...	...	...	...
Total ...	31	...	...	...	...
TOTAL OF CHOTA NAGPUR	22,798	12,118	6,482	1,450	...
BIHAR.					
<i>Sonthal Parganas.</i>					
Barharwa ...	7,097	6,838	5,368	...	...
Maharajpur Ghat ...	1,129	...	...	...	...
Pakour ...	3,011	1,990	6,465	...	...
Sahibganj ...	43,325	13,427	11,239	151	...
Baidyanath ...	11,724	8,891	1,473	...	...
Madhubpur ...	2,045	...	1,077	...	...
Rajmahal ...	1,205	1,919	2,288	...	...
Tinpahar ...	...	1,888	2,296	...	...
Kotal Pakour ...	...	...	1,527	...	...
Mihijam ...	...	...	381	...	...
Jamtara ...	...	...	381	...	...
Total ...	60,536	29,853	32,495	151	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Sep- tember 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
BEHAR—contd.					
<i>Purnea.</i>					
Kissenganj ...	Mds. 379	...	...	...	...
Katihar Junction ...	4,509	371	...	...	...
Manihari ...	61	6	...	...	...
Sonali ...	346	751	...	...	...
Kasba ...	370	740	370	...	...
Other places ...	...	2,751	...	...	...
Total ...	5,665	4,619	370	...	...
<i>Bhagalpur.</i>					
Nathnagar ...	5,339	1,532	1,184	...	...
Colgong ...	25,466	1,511	1,507	...	...
Pirpainti ...	18,947	6,048	762	...	...
Ghoga ...	2,248	...	...	...	...
Bhagalpur ...	66,546	19,769	10,843	1,141	...
Sultanganj ...	3,770	...	380	...	...
Raghupur ...	370	...	...	...	...
Pertabganj ...	374	...	...	...	...
Bhaptiahi ...	...	2,262	...	...	...
Total ...	1,18,060	31,122	14,126	1,141	...
<i>Monghyr.</i>					
Bariaipur ...	382	...	...	...	...
Khagaria ...	9,517	3,386	4,975	...	...
Jamalpur ...	1,521	1,120	3,040	...	...
Lakhisarai ...	24,529	2,473	6,626	1,026	...
Monghyr ...	6,448	2,639	4,149	373	371
Garhara ...	36,145	9,843	7,618	492	...
Tegra ...	9,825	6,940	3,051	...	...
Jamui ...	4,203	...	1,134	...	...
Begamsarai ...	371	...	...	...	...
Burhi ...	3,031	3,768	3,384	975	...
Simultola ...	2,657	162	348	...	...
Nawadi ...	371	...	...	...	...
Kajra ...	752	2,256	1,503	...	...
Total ...	99,752	32,587	35,828	3,466	371
<i>Patna.</i>					
Masaurhi ...	375	...	...	...	...
Khushrupur ...	23,700	12,553	6,822	1,138	863
Barh ...	18,905	9,109	6,409	378	...
Patna ...	1,97,224	83,104	48,290	17,141	5,375
Bankipore ...	3,372	4,920	2,647	3,036	770
Digha Ghat ...	49,331	18,339	10,657	3,427	761
Sadisapur ...	752	...	...	...	...
Bihta ...	3,602	4,211	10,241	2,669	382
Mokameh ...	23,469	14,484	11,368	3,905	...
Dinapur ...	7,823	1,128	380	...	...
Buktiaipur ...	5,698	12,176	15,988	4,954	381
Fatusa ...	3,817	1,896	3,037	1,911	1,182
Total ...	3,38,068	1,61,920	1,15,837	38,559	9,714
<i>Gaya.</i>					
Gaya ...	66,331	17,080	28,726	8,474	1,133
Jahanabad ...	2,621	5,723	3,705	3,436	...
Bela ...	373	...	...	...	...
Mukdumpur ...	371	...	380	...	...
Total ...	69,696	22,803	37,811	11,960	1,133
<i>Shahabad.</i>					
Bedadi ...	8,091	763	...	...	...
Raghunathpur ...	11,340	1,508	4,938	...	1,120
Arrah ...	23,071	15,691	16,933	1,903	375
Buxar ...	27,935	18,157	24,676	6,053	11,977
Dumraon ...	7,910	1,510	3,022	756	761
Bihia ...	...	...	764	1,130	395
Total ...	78,347	37,620	50,333	9,842	14,637

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
BIHAR—conold.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Darbhanga.</i>					
Sakri ...	5,642	375	8,799	...	877
Tamaria ...	4,144	870	878	...	...
Samastipur ...	80,779	12,322	12,511	481	...
Dalsingh Sarai ...	89,098	14,717	14,115	1,515	...
Darbhanga ...	2,25,091	62,524	31,141	...	...
Kamtaul ...	1,857	3,435	1,540	...	...
Waini ...	4,543	1,141	881	...	...
Jhanjharpur ...	1,508	3,389	1,521	875	...
Total ...	3,62,662	98,773	65,386	2,371	877
<i>Muzaffarpur.</i>					
Janakpur Road ...	759	877	...	...	...
Sarai ...	1,874	757	1,511	...	...
Bairagnia ...	2,495	...	...	...	...
Kanti ...	1,512	...	...	...	...
Matipur ...	1,398	...	...	...	...
Dholi ...	1,803	...	874	...	...
Muzaffarpur ...	2,11,741	42,084	29,249	758	1,904
Bhagwanpur ...	6,996	2,263	3,086	876	...
Sitamardi ...	57,756	21,033	4,229	870	...
Hajipur ...	22,362	7,659	12,585	1,898	...
Garaul ...	1,490	1,890	1,889	...	...
Total ...	3,10,285	76,018	52,873	8,402	1,904
<i>Champan.</i>					
Macsi ...	11,951	...	377	...	380
Segowli ...	9,694	1,127	380	...	...
Jindara ...	22,495	...	...	...	...
Bettiah ...	1,78,145	22,686	16,418	...	...
Bara ...	42,715	6,125	2,273	...	...
Motihari ...	86,241	12,445	3,003	...	...
Pipra ...	7,051	1,107	877	...	...
Total ...	3,58,292	43,440	22,828	...	380
<i>Saran.</i>					
Dighwara ...	1,887	6,097	7,298	3,438	1,137
Ekma ...	12,775	9,428	8,688	1,516	379
Chapra ...	1,28,760	26,967	25,154	8,402	3,796
Goldenganj ...	873	...	...	...	...
Daronda ...	34,771	9,041	4,887	784	...
Savan ...	1,67,819	46,099	24,553	7,124	3,195
Revelganj ...	1,11,822	33,297	26,739	4,562	3,410
Mairwa ...	747	...	...	...	...
Total ...	4,58,954	1,30,929	97,319	25,806	16,917
TOTAL OF BIHAR...	22,69,317	6,69,683	5,25,206	96,898	45,433
TOTAL OF PRO- VINCES UNDER THE LIEUTENANT- GOVERNOR OF BENGAL.	24,90,580	7,89,862	5,70,082	1,10,195	53,575
ASSAM.					
<i>Cachar.</i>					
Silchar ...	847	...	...	...	...
Sealtik ...	...	1,006	...	...	...
Total ...	847	1,006	...	...	...
<i>Nowgong.</i>					
Nowgong ...	...	...	380	...	...
Total of Assam ...	347	1,006	380	...	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Sep- tember 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTH-WEST- ERN PROVINCES AND OUDH.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Ghazipur District.</i>					
Dildarnagar ...	25,027	7,598	1,907	878	1,185
Guhmer ...	865	...	1,530	761	880
Tari Ghat ...	20,528	8,422	8,047	1,189	4,150
Ghazipur ...	...	757	...	...	754
Total ...	45,915	11,772	6,464	2,278	6,419
<i>Benares District.</i>					
Dhina ...	877	...	...	...	375
Shiupur ...	2,270	1,897	...	...	...
Zamania ...	88,357	8,445	2,657	...	753
Sakaldiha ...	4,160	...	378	...	...
Mogulsarai ...	8,405	...	...	...	...
Benares Cantonment	1,52,254	27,260	25,360	1,517	765
Total ...	2,00,828	82,602	28,805	1,517	1,898
<i>Gorakhpur District.</i>					
Bhagalpur Gogra ...	8,375	...	...	...	...
Chauri Chaura ...	3,753	745	...	...	...
Tahsil Deoria ...	10,612	2,288	1,131	...	...
Gorakhpur ...	7,987	4,567	8,782	...	...
Sahjanwa ...	5,340	...	...	...	...
Bhatpur ...	80,110	4,535	8,388	...	...
Total ...	61,177	12,135	8,801	...	...
<i>Basti District.</i>					
Khalilabad ...	1,126	...	...	...	...
Basti ...	11,438	...	...	...	...
Uska Bazar ...	4,144	...	...	...	...
Total ...	16,708	...	...	...	...
<i>Gonda District.</i>					
Gonda ...	19,514	...	761	...	...
Other places ...	9,044	...	...	...	...
Total ...	28,558	...	761	...	...
<i>Baraich District.</i>					
Naupara ...	1,895	...	...	...	...
Baraich ...	4,894	...	...	...	...
Total ...	6,789	...	...	...	...
<i>Mirzapur District.</i>					
Ahraura Road ...	22,227	4,501	2,667	...	125
Chunar ...	4,929	1,127	370	...	...
Mirzapur ...	84,654	7,960	17,418	...	...
Gainpura ...	8,045	748	880	...	...
Total ...	1,14,855	14,836	20,830	...	125
<i>Allahabad District.</i>					
Karchana ...	7,168	1,514	1,147	...	...
Naini ...	370	374	...	...	...
Manwari ...	2,681	850	...	...	...
Jasra ...	85,884	2,276	8,061	...	...
Mija Road ...	1,18,409	6,834	5,726	880	...
Nahwai ...	6,058	1,528	1,919	...	...
Allahabad ...	1,94,987	10,701	20,491	1,880	...
Bharwari ...	22,940	...	778	...	...
Sirathu ...	15,916	877	...	...	...
Shiurajpur ...	12,433	754	1,555	...	...
Other places ...	876	...	...	...	...
Total ...	4,17,162	24,708	84,677	2,260	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTH-WEST- ERN PROVINCES AND OUDH— contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Fatehpur District.</i>					
Bahrampur ...	1,889	381	...	...	...
Khaga ...	4,512	...	...	...	...
Biudki ...	59,519	3,793	2,279	886	...
Fatehpur ...	773	103	1,148	...	...
Total ...	66,728	4,277	3,422	886	...
<i>Cawnpore District.</i>					
Cawnpore City ...	8,78,602	6,044	15,338	880	...
<i>Etawah District.</i>					
Phaphund ...	10,999	...	...	...	...
Bharthna ...	766	...	...	...	...
Etawah ...	46,658	1,148	370	...	...
Jasawantnagar ...	9,451	...	...	761	...
Total ...	67,874	1,148	370	761	...
<i>Farukhabad Dis- trict.</i>					
Fatehgarh ...	378	...	...	...	...
Farukhabad ...	753	...	...	...	...
Kanauj ...	381	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,507	...	...	...	...
<i>Mainpuri District.</i>					
Kaurara ...	6,443	...	...	...	...
Shakohabad ...	6,497	751	...	...	...
Total ...	12,940	751	...	...	...
<i>Agra District.</i>					
Firozabad ...	24,396	377	379	...	...
Agra ...	1,09,626	11,341	5,266	764	380
Barhan ...	260	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,34,282	11,718	5,648	764	380
<i>Sitapur District.</i>					
Sitapur ...	12,438	373	...	...	...
<i>Muttra District.</i>					
Koai ...	1,564	...	...	...	...
Muttra ...	11,371	758	758	...	...
Brindaban ...	696	...	...	...	...
Total ...	13,631	758	758	...	...
<i>Alighur District.</i>					
Harduaganj ...	755	...	...	...	...
Sikandra Rao ...	753	...	...	...	...
Hattrass ...	82,104	9,427	1,784	1,153	...
Alighur ...	19,579	2,268	2,067	757	...
Total ...	1,03,191	11,695	4,451	1,910	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTH-WEST- ERN PROVINCES AND OUDH— contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Bulandshahar Dis- trict.</i>					
Chola ...	1,504	...	381	...	...
Secundrabad ...	5,289	...	752	379	377
Khurja ...	30,346	...	2,264	755	...
Dibai ...	4,913	...	754	...	...
Total ...	42,052	...	4,151	1,134	377
<i>Muzaffarnagar Dis- trict.</i>					
Muzaffarnagar ...	757	...	...	...	...
<i>Meerut District.</i>					
Ghaziabad ...	5,135	374	...	...	...
Meerut ...	42,541	1,150	765	...	...
Total ...	47,676	1,524	765	...	...
<i>Banda District.</i>					
Badansa ...	4,530	...	375	...	...
Banda ...	37,553	3,802	4,934	753	...
Bargarh ...	11,332	784	391	...	...
Manikpur ...	7,919	1,142	1,178	...	...
Kurwi ...	43,218	...	1,129	...	...
Majhgawan ...	376	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,04,928	5,728	8,007	753	...
<i>Moradabad District.</i>					
Khanth ...	1,885	...	...	...	...
Moradabad ...	11,699	...	381	...	...
Chundowai ...	21,796	...	...	...	...
Total ...	35,380	...	381	...	...
<i>Azimgarh District.</i>					
Shahganj ...	27,277	1,509	2,375	...	...
<i>Bareilly District.</i>					
Nawabganj ..	754	...	...	...	...
Aonla ...	7,627	...	...	...	...
Bareilly ...	47,274	2,311	1,520	...	761
Total ...	55,655	2,311	1,520	...	761
<i>Jaunpur District.</i>					
Jaunpur ...	65,666	6,855	5,859	...	...
<i>Shajehanpur Dis- trict.</i>					
Shajehanpur ...	20,082	390	702	...	...
Tilhar ...	16,026	...	...	...	...
Anjhi ...	11,030	380	381	...	...
Rosa Junction ...	373	...	...	...	...
Total ...	47,511	760	1,483	...	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTH-WEST- ERN PROVINCES AND OUDH— contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Fatehpur District.</i>					
Bahrampur ...	1,889	381	...	...	...
Khaga ...	4,512	...	...	...	...
Biudki ...	59,519	3,793	2,279	386	...
Fatehpur ...	773	103	1,143	...	...
Total ...	66,723	4,277	3,422	386	...
<i>Cawnpore District.</i>					
Cawnpore City ...	3,78,602	6,044	15,338	380	...
<i>Etawah District.</i>					
Phaphund ...	10,999	...	...	...	...
Bharthna ...	766	...	...	...	...
Etawah ...	46,658	1,148	370	...	...
Jasawantnagar ...	9,451	...	...	761	...
Total ...	67,874	1,148	370	761	...
<i>Farukhabad Dis- trict.</i>					
Fatehgarh ...	373	...	...	...	...
Farukhabad ...	753	...	...	...	...
Kanauj ...	381	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,507	...	...	...	...
<i>Mainpuri District.</i>					
Kaurara ...	6,143	...	...	...	...
Shukohabad ...	6,497	751	...	...	...
Total ...	12,940	751	...	...	...
<i>Agra District.</i>					
Firozabad ...	24,396	377	379	...	...
Agra ...	1,09,626	11,341	5,269	764	380
Barhan ...	260	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,34,282	11,718	5,648	764	380
<i>Sitapur District.</i>					
Sitapur ...	12,438	373	...	...	...
<i>Muttra District.</i>					
Kosi ...	1,564	...	...	...	...
Muttra ...	11,371	758	758	...	...
Brindaban ...	696	...	...	...	...
Total ...	13,631	758	758	...	...
<i>Alighur District.</i>					
Harduaganj ...	755	...	...	...	...
Sikandra Rao ...	753	...	...	...	...
Hatnass ...	82,104	9,427	1,784	1,153	...
Alighur ...	19,579	2,268	2,667	757	...
Total ...	1,08,191	11,695	4,451	1,910	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTH-WEST- ERN PROVINCES AND OUDH— contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Bulandshahar Dis- trict.</i>					
Chola ...	1,504	...	381	...	...
Secundrabad ...	5,289	...	752	379	377
Khurja ...	30,346	...	2,264	755	...
Dibai ...	4,913	...	754	...	...
Total ...	42,052	...	4,151	1,134	377
<i>Muzaffarnagar Dis- trict.</i>					
Muzaffarnagar ...	757	...	...	...	...
<i>Meerut District.</i>					
Ghaziabad ...	5,135	374	...	...	...
Meerut ...	42,541	1,150	765	...	...
Total ...	47,676	1,524	765	...	...
<i>Banda District.</i>					
Badansa ...	4,530	...	375	...	...
Banda ...	37,553	3,802	4,934	753	...
Bargarh ...	11,332	784	391	...	...
Manikpur ...	7,919	1,142	1,178	...	...
Kurwi ...	43,218	...	1,129	...	...
Majhgawan ...	376	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,04,928	5,728	8,007	753	...
<i>Moradabad District.</i>					
Khanth ...	1,885	...	...	...	...
Moradabad ...	11,699	...	381	...	...
Chundowai ...	21,796	...	...	...	...
Total ...	35,380	...	381	...	...
<i>Azimgarh District.</i>					
Shahganj ...	27,277	1,509	2,675	...	...
<i>Bareilly District.</i>					
Nawabganj ...	754	...	...	...	...
Aonla ...	7,627	...	...	...	...
Bareilly ...	47,274	2,311	1,520	...	761
Total ...	55,655	2,311	1,520	...	761
<i>Jaunpur District.</i>					
Jaunpur ...	65,666	6,855	5,859	...	...
<i>Shajehanpur Dis- trict.</i>					
Shajehanpur ...	20,082	380	762	...	...
Tilhar ...	16,026	...	...	...	...
Anjhi ...	11,030	380	381	...	...
Rosa Junction ...	373	...	...	...	...
Total ...	47,511	760	1,143	...	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 7th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTH-WEST- ERN PROVINCES AND OUDH— contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Eta District.</i>					
Jaleswar Road ...	886	...	...	...	...
Kashganj ...	4,146	...	381	...	...
Total ...	4,582	...	381	...	...
<i>Lucknow District.</i>					
Lucknow ...	1,02,370	3,044	4,186	...	1,151
Alamnagar ...	38,257	758	765	372	...
Kakori ...	3,020	...	...	...	...
Malihabad ...	754	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,44,401	3,802	4,951	372	1,151
<i>Pilibhit District.</i>					
Pilibhit ...	1,516	...	...	...	...
<i>Saharanpur District.</i>					
Burki ...	873	...	...	...	...
Saharanpur ...	15,033	...	...	381	...
Total ...	15,406	...	...	381	...
<i>Fyzabad District.</i>					
Sahwal ...	783	...	...	...	...
Itadhauli ...	20,772	...	...	...	...
Fyzabad ...	72,070	3,787	7,621	...	...
Ajodhya ...	10,993	...	...	...	...
Goswainanj ...	3,788	374	...	...	...
Total ...	1,03,406	4,161	7,621	...	...
<i>Sultanpur District.</i>					
Akbarpur ...	9,786	...	...	...	...
<i>Bara Banki District.</i>					
Fahramghat ...	7,166	758	...	...	...
Duryabad ...	2,275	...	...	...	...
Bara Banki ...	14,417	769	...	...	...
Safdarganj ...	52,935	758	...	...	...
Total ...	76,793	2,285	...	...	...
<i>Hardai District.</i>					
Balawan ...	755	...	...	...	...
Hardai ...	21,328	374	381	...	376
Baghauli ...	14,899	...	...	...	...
Sandila ...	5,667	...	...	...	...
Total ...	42,649	374	381	...	376
<i>Bijnor District.</i>					
Dhampur ...	8,692	...	...	...	...
Nagina ...	9,081	1,181	...	...	...
Najibabad ...	10,568	709	...	...	...
Bijnor ...	2,618	...	...	...	...
Total ...	30,959	1,840	...	...	...
<i>Unao.</i>					
Unao ...	...	...	381	...	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Sep- tember 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTH-WEST- ERN PROVINCES AND OUDH— conold.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Jhansi District.</i>					
Jhansi ...	6,425	1,532	375	...	...
<i>Lalitpur District.</i>					
Lalitpur ...	4,506	756	381	...	...
<i>Kheri District.</i>					
Lakshmipur ...	3,389	...	...	...	...
<i>Hamirpur District.</i>					
Mahoba ...	16,262	1,898	2,262	381	...
<i>Dohra Dun District.</i>					
Hardwar ...	378	...	...	...	...
<i>Jalaun District.</i>					
Ait ...	1,117	...	...	...	...
Kalpi ...	1,873	...	...	...	...
Total ...	2,990	...	...	...	...
<i>Gerhwal District.</i>					
Haldwani ...	2,264	...	...	...	...
Other places ...	72,531	1,898	4,579	365	...
TOTAL OF THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH.	26,53,270	1,69,550	1,75,243	13,642	11,452
PANJAB.					
<i>Amritsar District.</i>					
Amritsar ...	740	...	...	382	...
<i>Delhi District.</i>					
Delhi ...	2,31,956	11,335	14,105	4,960	3,750
<i>Jullundur District.</i>					
Jullundur City ...	8	...	...	386	...
<i>Umballa District.</i>					
Umballa City ...	17,863	140	...	...	...
<i>Gurgaon District.</i>					
Faraknagar ...	378	...	...	...	...
Gurgaon ...	1,890	...	...	...	...
Rewari ...	64,441	1,133	3,773	...	1,499
Total ...	66,709	1,133	3,773	...	1,499
<i>Rawalpindi District</i>					
Rawalpindi ...	...	...	1,873	1,125	...
Other places ...	96,050	1,901	13,782	...	403
TOTAL OF THE PANJAB.	4,18,321	14,509	33,533	6,853	5,652

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
CENTRAL PRO- VINCES.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Sehora Road ...	20,160	6,077	5,691	882	750
Katni ...	66,879	10,590	8,014	2,274	755
Jubbulpur ...	1,95,098	6,835	22,379	2,280	380
Peparia ...	41,578	2,361	2,649	...	375
Kareli ...	87,846	9,146	8,829	1,131	...
Nagpur ...	78,979	21,248	88,464	6,490	1,898
Other places ...	5,80,702	1,16,171	1,19,291	23,220	9,418
Total ...	10,20,742	1,72,428	1,95,817	35,777	13,561
RAJPUTANA AND CENTRAL INDIA.					...
Dholpur ...	1,126	...	...	...	379
Ajmere ...	759	753	881	...	...
Sutna ...	1,06,401	11,420	14,810	2,640	...
Mhow ...	2,838	...	...	...	...
Ulwar ...	5,718	377	...	385	...
Indore ...	1,506	...	...	...	...
Jeypur ...	8,016	...	...	...	...
Bawal ...	755	...	...	...	...
Harphulpur ...	4,807	880	880	...	880
Other places ...	18,718	5,758	1,528	378	...
Total ...	1,45,639	18,697	17,099	3,408	759
Hyderabad ...	1,156	...	...	...	...
BERAR.					
Badnera ...	883	...	...	...	402
Dhamangaon ...	2,934	1,062	...	...	382
Malkapur ...	438	365	...	...	379
Khamgaon ...	2,418	...	763	...	...
Akola ...	8,730	1,979	3,778	382	1,911
Amraoti ...	15,258	8,824	8,378	4,949	4,608
Total ...	25,156	7,250	12,919	5,381	7,682
Bombay ...	374	...	1,143	...	...
Unspecified places	1,12,220	2,640	8,197	1,496	527
GRAND TOTAL ...	68,62,805	11,75,942	10,08,918	1,76,697	93,238
ABSTRACT.					
Total of Bengal ...	1,98,470	1,08,056	88,444	12,047	8,142
" " Bihar ...	22,69,317	6,69,688	5,25,206	96,698	45,438
" " Chota Nag- pur.	22,793	12,118	6,432	1,450	...
Total of Assam ...	847	1,006	880	...	...
Total of the North- Western Pro- vinces and Oudh.	26,53,270	1,69,550	1,75,243	13,642	11,482
Total of the Panjab	4,13,821	14,509	33,583	6,853	5,652
Total of Rajputana and Central India.	1,45,639	18,697	17,099	3,408	759
Total of Central Provinces.	10,20,742	1,72,428	1,95,817	35,777	13,561
Total of Hyderabad	1,156	...	...	...	...
Total of Berar ...	25,156	7,250	12,919	5,381	7,682
Total of Bombay ...	374	...	1,143	...	...
Total of Unspecified places.	1,12,220	2,640	8,197	1,496	527
Add exports from Calcutta from 1st to 30th January 1897, the details whereof are not available.	87,800	...	...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	69,50,605	11,75,942	10,08,918	1,76,697	93,238

**EXPORTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY THE EASTERN BENGAL STATE
RAILWAY.**

No. 2627 Statistics.—The following statement shows the quantity of rice and other food-grains exported by the Eastern Bengal State Railway from Sealdah and Calcutta during the period from 1st January to 4th September 1897, both days inclusive, to have been 11,02,461 maunds. The destination of 10,98,487 maunds is specified. Of this quantity 8,73,792 maunds were carried to stations in Bengal Proper, and 90,996 maunds to Bihar and Chota Nagpur, 44,415 maunds to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, 84,311 maunds to places in Assam, and the rest (4,973 maunds) to other provinces.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 21st September 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

Statement showing the quantities of rice and other food-grains exported from Sealdah and Calcutta (Port Trust Railway, Chitpur and Kidderpore Docks), by the Eastern Bengal State Railway, from 1st January to 4th September 1897.

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNEED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
BENGAL.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>24-Parganas.</i>				
Barrackpore ...	1,071	374	...	...
Shamnagar ...	5	...	...	...
Kankinara ...	302	...	...	...
Naihati ...	149	182	...	...
Kanchrapara ...	34	24	4	...
Duttapukur ...	84	...	...	...
Gobardanga ...	1,191	359	190	36
Akra Junction ...	9	...	...	...
Muslandpur ...	9	4	6	...
Mugra Hat ...	4	...	...	...
Guma ...	60	...	...	...
Budge-Budge ...	8	...	...	...
Dogachhia ...	8	...	...	...
Habra ...	...	...	12	...
Baruipur ...	...	...	...	5
Total ...	2,934	943	212	41
<i>Nadia.</i>				
Chakdaha ...	97	...	142	...
Ranaghat ...	785	131	81	...
Aranghata ...	45	...	...	...
Bagula ...	17,323	3,058	4	...
Kishanganj ...	3,781	1,711	971	300
Banpur ...	608	148	126	...
Ramnagar ...	2,874	729	568	22
Jairampur ...	2,325	1,072	560	166
Chuadanga ...	17,306	5,264	1,117	9
Munshiganj ...	6,447	1,509	69	...
Alamdanga ...	35,663	11,839	2,523	...
Halsa ...	2,339	483	...	492
Poradaha ...	2,340	245	15	...
Jagati ...	2,853	905	21	...
Kushtia ...	47,273	19,967	1,582	473
Kumarkhali ...	20,440	18,740	774	161
Koksa ...	6,567	3,583	637	20
Mirpur ...	20,759	2,549	148	10
Bhairamara ...	29,622	2,962	14	...
Damukdia ...	7,107	13,189	3,425	342
Gangnapur ...	32	20	61	...
Madanpur ...	9	88	...	26
Total ...	2,26,600	88,192	12,838	2,021
<i>Jessore.</i>				
Chandpara ...	150	18	15	...
Bangaon ...	1,667	213	264	40
Gopalnagar ...	521	69	129	...
Benapol ...	296	268	69	...
Nabharan ...	634	227	129	...
Jhikargacha ...	7,048	1,685	1,004	31
Jessore ...	6,649	3,482	1,017	78
Rupdia ...	58	59	3	...
Singia ...	16,316	7,275	40	...
Narai ...	258	...	...	...
Binodpur ...	1,056	110	...	...
Nohatta ...	328	77	2	...
Other places ...	2,529	250	...	...
Total ...	37,510	13,733	2,676	149

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
BENGAL—contd.				
<i>Khulna.</i>	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Fakir Hat ...	...	...	20	...
Nawapara ...	1,535	876	51	...
Phultala ...	346	119	180	...
Daulatpur ...	148	20	30	...
Khulna ...	3,526	5,343	419	342
Bagir Hât ...	15	18	...	...
Bhatpara ...	8	...	...	...
Total ...	5,578	6,376	700	342
<i>Rajshahi.</i>				
Malanohi ...	1,503	2,126	...	260
Gopalpur ...	73	260	...	...
Nator ...	498	1,873	1,294	184
Attrai ...	37	982	4,434	467
Raninagar ...	108	304	185	40
Alipur ...	14,912	3,108	...	...
Rampur Boalia ...	1,348	3,594	1,862	...
Sara ...	498	301	4	...
Charghat ...	...	448	...	...
Madhanagar ...	...	...	100	...
Total ...	18,972	12,996	7,879	891
<i>Dinajpur.</i>				
Parbatipur ...	...	358	...	...
Kangaon ...	6	883	400	...
Charkai ...	192	24	32	68
Phulbari ...	82	232	97	...
Raiganj ...	1	...	...	...
Dinajpur ...	1,007	3,778	2,737	...
Kaliaganj ...	...	140	...	...
Total ...	1,288	5,415	3,266	68
<i>Jalpaiguri.</i>				
Belakoba ...	632	150	...	...
Dam-Dim ...	171	...	...	...
Chilahati ...	70	300	332	240
Haldibari ...	24,726	7,041	3,081	1,440
Jalpaiguri ...	25,961	13,032	2,609	3,061
Ramshai Hât ...	9,716	5	400	...
Chales Road Ghât ...	1,220	...	203	501
Malbazar ...	1,981	165	...	...
Deomoni ...	103	...	...	...
Mandal Ghât ...	713	520	...	135
Total ...	65,293	21,213	6,625	5,377
<i>Darjeeling.</i>				
Siliguri ...	5,857	887	41	975
Kurseong ...	4,097	14	6	400
Sonada ...	1,056	...	...	410
Ghum ...	4,465	1,175	713	...
Darjeeling ...	3,184	1,386	1,074	12
Mahanadi ...	...	...	...	1
Total ...	18,659	3,462	1,834	1,798

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
BENGAL—contd.				
<i>Rangpur.</i>	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Daroani ...	...	237	805	...
Rangpur ...	1,337	1,458	634	183
Kaunia ...	244	...	12	20
Badarganj ...	24	...	38	...
Saidpur ...	1,495	2,373	1,450	95
Nilphamari ...	236	505	868	142
Domar ...	8,097	5,191	1,359	2,393
Tista ...	392	...	...	...
Lalmonir Hat ...	453	...	6	...
Magal Hat ...	200	...	356	...
Kurigram ...	964	55	127	140
Jatrapur ...	426	34	26	...
Porabari ...	680	29	81	1
Madarganj ...	4	...	20	...
Kamarjani ...	1,388	36	35	...
Chilmari ...	248	70	20	14
Rowmari ...	133	...	21	...
Shampur ...	100	...	...	...
Total ...	16,411	9,988	5,358	2,988
<i>Bogra.</i>				
Panchbibi ...	...	100	150	...
Jaipur Hat ...	16	1,493	583	12
Jamerbari ...	1,859	229	416	150
Sultanpur ...	170	953	4,148	1,166
Akkelpur ...	390	1,117	1,665	220
Hili ...	105	987	335	36
Jamalganj ...	507	1,274	722	120
Tilakpur ...	...	108	...	...
Nakhila ...	...	...	...	12
Total ...	3,047	6,261	8,019	1,716
<i>Pabna.</i>				
Nagarbari ...	1,263	201	300	251
Banagram ...	85	...	...	...
Belkuchi ...	3,396	1,154	192	306
Serajganj ...	11,476	2,477	3,771	2,262
Pabna ...	4	...	...	...
Sthalchar ...	...	...	5	...
Bera ...	...	...	12	...
Total ...	16,824	3,832	4,280	2,819
<i>Cooch Behar.</i>				
Chaurh Hat ...	1,476	...	...	...
Torsa ...	28,106	...	360	20
Other places ...	917	...	...	...
Total ...	30,499	...	360	20
<i>Dacca.</i>				
Haserkandi ...	4	...	...	...
Elashin ...	6	9	16	...
Narayanganj ...	1,436	104	520	1,045
Dacca ...	533	69	136	161
Kadirpur ...	22	28	327	213
Tarpasa ...	815	29	...	...
Kamalaghat ...	13	38	...	...
Bahar ...	13	...	...	...
Moynal ...	12	2	...	...
Postagola ...	513	...	...	...
Kartikpur ...	61	...	14	...
Maniknagar ...	2	...	...	2
Nuria ...	...	30	456	283
Arischa ...	...	12	...	...
Sabhar ...	...	...	...	127
Total ...	3,430	321	1,469	1,831

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
BENGAL—conold.				
<i>Mymensingh.</i>	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Gafargaon ...	16	...	...	...
Mymensingh ...	651	14	144	129
Bhairab Bazar ...	41	...	...	20
Bahadurabad ...	254	20	...	30
Hargilachar ...	336	121	22	6
Jagannathganj ...	1,186	25	63	1
Subarnakhali ...	2,559	264	102	...
Total ...	5,043	444	331	186
<i>Faridpur.</i>				
Daulatdia ...	11,346	...	...	...
Lallgolla ...	4,469	2,730	1,275	2,595
Pangsa ...	34,805	12,914	984	781
Belgachi ...	8,279	300	103	...
Rajbari ...	13,341	1,124	495	221
Pachuria ...	19,465	8,746	6,355	5,040
Goalundo ...	19,895	4,304	2,818	2,269
Faridpur ...	21	...	2	...
Madaripur ...	6	...	...	1
Total ...	1,11,627	30,118	12,032	10,907
<i>Backergunge.</i>				
Pirozpur ...	...	5	...	...
Jhalakati ...	920	...	1,232	1,785
Barisal ...	249	...	40	20
Total ...	1,169	5	1,272	1,805
<i>Tippera.</i>				
Haziganj ...	20	...	...	60
Comilla ...	130	...	...	20
Chandpur ...	8	1	240	140
Akhaura ...	7	8	18	...
Total ...	165	9	258	220
<i>Noakhah.</i>				
Noakhali ...	471	...	...	...
<i>Chittagong.</i>				
Chittagong ...	54	284	345	136
<i>Burdwan.</i>				
Sitarampur ...	...	...	412	...
Rasulpur ...	3	...	...	...
Raniganj ...	423	...	...	...
Total ...	431	...	412	...
<i>Birbhum.</i>				
Bolpur ...	5	...	...	...
Sainthia ...	2	...	...	...
Total ...	7	...	...	...
<i>Murshidabad.</i>				
Azimganj ...	312	375	...	...
Jiaganj ...	20	...	...	...
Total ...	332	375	...	...
Total of Bengal ...	5,66,344	2,03,967	70,166	33,315

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
CHOTA NAGPUR.				
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Hasaribagh.</i>				
Giridih ...	390	740	...	...
<i>Manbhum.</i>				
Parulia ...	937	740	927	360
Chandil ...	10	...	...	...
Katrasgarh ...	16	...	...	...
Pradhan Khanta ...	...	...	740	...
Total ...	963	740	1,667	360
<i>Singhbhum.</i>				
Chakradharpur ...	20	...	...	...
Total of Chota Nagpur	1,373	1,480	1,667	360
BIHAR.				
<i>Sonthal Parganas.</i>				
Deoghur ...	370	...	...	...
Pakur ...	6	...	...	...
Rajmahal ...	...	794	...	...
Total ...	376	794	...	...
<i>Bhagalpur.</i>				
Colgong ...	384	...	...	...
Bhagalpur ...	370	4,100	...	...
Total ...	754	4,100	...	...
<i>Monghyr.</i>				
Monghyr ...	370	...	370	...
Barowni ...	10	...	...	...
Khageria ...	742	370	376	...
Burhi ...	...	1,496	1,516	...
Kajra ...	161	1,876	375	...
Jamulpur ...	...	370	...	...
Garhara ...	...	751	751	...
Total ...	1,283	4,863	3,388	...
<i>Patna.</i>				
Barh ...	...	753	1,128	...
Patna ...	1,050	8,988	2,828	1,110
Diga Ghat ...	740	386	...	...
Bakhtiarpur ...	377	771	382	...
Mokameh ...	745	3,776	2,627	...
Khusrupur ...	...	2,655	375	...
Bankipur ...	...	375	751	370
Dinapur ...	...	371	...	...
Total ...	2,912	18,075	8,091	1,480
<i>Purnea.</i>				
Barsoi ...	...	...	370	...
Sonali ...	720	...	...	...
Kishanganj ...	1	1,466	...	...
Kasba ...	...	...	200	...
Total ...	721	1,466	570	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
BIHAR—concd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Darbhanga.</i>				
Samastipur ...	895	3,004	1,499	...
Kamtaul ...	370	...	...	...
Dalsingh Sarai ...	...	3,755	2,632	...
Total ...	1,265	6,759	4,131	...
<i>Shahabad.</i>				
Arrah ...	...	1,120	385	...
Raghanathpur ...	370	...	...	...
Behea ...	...	...	370	...
Total ...	370	1,120	755	...
<i>Gaya.</i>				
Gaya ...	370	...	11	...
<i>Munaffarpur.</i>				
Hajipur ...	740	...	...	...
Sitamarhi ...	370	...	...	...
Munaffarpur ...	2,628	2,281	380	...
Bhagwanpur ...	...	375	...	...
Garaul ...	...	376	375	...
Total ...	3,738	3,032	755	...
<i>Champaram.</i>				
Bettiah ...	370	...	...	...
<i>Saran.</i>				
Ekma ...	740	...	...	...
Revelganj ...	1,870	1,857	...	...
Chapra ...	1,537	380	870	...
Saran ...	2,960	1,480	740	...
Daronda ...	370	1,505	...	...
Digwara ...	...	758	...	...
Total ...	7,477	5,980	1,110	...
Total of Bihar	19,636	46,189	18,811	1,480
NORTH-WES- TERN PROVIN- CES AND OUDH.				
<i>Ghazipur.</i>				
Dildarnagar ...	...	1,121	...	...
Ghazipur ...	5	...	...	...
Tarighat ...	...	370	...	...
Total ...	5	1,491	...	...
<i>Benares.</i>				
Benares ...	370	...	...	...
<i>Gorakhpur.</i>				
Gauri Bazar ...	370	...	...	...
Chauri Chaura ...	370	...	...	...
Gorakhpur ...	...	...	740	...
Total ...	740	...	740	...
<i>Mirzapur.</i>				
Mirzapur ...	385	...	...	...
<i>Allahabad.</i>				
Naini Junction ...	370	...	...	...
Mija Road ...	385	...	...	...
Allahabad ...	4,000	...	...	...
Total ...	4,755	...	...	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
NORTH-WES- TERN PROVIN- CES AND OUDH—contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Fatehpur.</i>				
Bindki ...	385	...	...	...
<i>Cawnpur.</i>				
Cawnpur ...	7,965	...	...	...
<i>Etawah.</i>				
Etawah ...	2,383	...	...	...
<i>Mainpuri.</i>				
Shakohabad ...	375	...	...	...
<i>Agra.</i>				
Firozabad ...	767	...	...	...
<i>Muttra.</i>				
Muttra ...	379	...	...	...
<i>Alighur.</i>				
Hatirass ...	3,832	1,144	379	...
Alighur ...	375	...	...	...
Total ...	4,207	1,144	379	...
<i>Meerut.</i>				
Meerut ...	758	...	384	...
<i>Moradabad.</i>				
Moradabad ...	385	...	...	...
<i>Bareilly.</i>				
Faridpur ...	4	...	...	...
Aonla ...	379	...	...	...
Bareilly ...	1,143	...	...	81
Total ...	1,526	...	...	81
<i>Jaunpur.</i>				
Jaunpur ...	8	3	...	...
Jalalganj ...	6	...	...	...
Total ...	14	3	...	...
<i>Shahjehanpur.</i>				
Shahjehanpur ...	1,132	...	...	...
Tilhar ...	1,899	...	...	...
Anjhee ...	385	...	...	...
Total ...	3,416	...	...	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
NORTH-WES- TERN PROVIN- CES AND OUDH—conold. Lucknow.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Lucknow ...	1,901	874	...	...
Alamnagar ...	8,401	...	...	...
Total ...	5,302	874	...	...
Bulandshahar.				
Khurja ...	750	...	...	...
Fyzabad.				
Fyzabad ...	821	...	...	...
Gosainganj ...	385	...	...	...
Total ...	1,206	...	...	...
Hardai.				
Hardai ...	373	...	...	...
Baghauhi ...	748	...	...	...
Total ...	1,121	...	...	...
Rawalpindi.				
Rawalpindi ...	...	...	370	...
Other places ...	2,255	...	...	...
Total of the North- Western Provin- ces.	39,449	3,012	1,873	81
Panjab ...	1,516	...	370	370
Central Provinces ...	456	1	...	1,876
Rajputana and Central India.	884	...	...	...
ASSAM.				
Sylhet.				
Fenchugunge ...	151	503	...	...
Sylhet ...	1,294	51	2	...
Badarpur ...	6,237	106	...	...
Balaganj ...	5,052	369	...	...
Karimganj ...	890	...	...	...
Chattak ...	3	...	...	...
Other places ...	836	1,070	327	...
Total ...	14,463	2,099	329	...
Cachar.				
Silohar ...	13,847	5,922	261	...
Goalpara.				
Dhnbri ...	1,208	121	330	164
Goalpara ...	1,640	310	366	191
Total ...	2,848	431	696	355

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5
ASSAM—concd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Kamrup.</i>				
Gauhati ...	678	3,258	2,876	3,445
<i>Darrang.</i>				
Tejpur ...	257	111	152	...
Mangaldai ...	18	160	...	...
Bishunath ...	51	...	...	...
Total ...	326	271	152	...
<i>Sibsagar.</i>				
Nigriting ...	1,826	...	...	...
Disangmukh ...	1,676	437	190	151
Dekhumukh ...	3,986	609	697	248
Kokilamukh ...	557	372	103	...
Other places ...	1,576	701	10	...
Total ...	9,621	2,119	1,000	399
<i>Lakhimpur.</i>				
Dibrugarh ...	14,366	875	1,887	671
Palasbari ...	2	20	...	...
Total ...	14,368	895	1,887	671
<i>Nowgong.</i>				
Silghat ...	558	...	...	...
Other places ...	115	26	400	...
Total of Assam ...	56,819	15,021	7,601	4,870
Unspecified places ...	3,843	115	16	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,89,820	2,69,785	1,00,504	42,352
ABSTRACT.				
Total of Bengal ...	5,65,086	2,03,931	70,166	33,315
Ditto Bihar ...	19,636	46,189	18,811	1,480
Ditto Chota Nag- pur.	1,373	1,480	1,667	360
Ditto North-Wes- tern Pro- vinces and Ondh.	39,449	3,012	1,873	81
Ditto Panjab ...	1,516	...	370	370
Ditto Central Pro- vinces.	456	1	...	1,876
Ditto Rajputana and Central India.	384	...	...	...
Assam ...	58,077	15,057	7,601	4,870
Unspecified places ...	3,843	115	16	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,89,820	2,69,785	1,00,504	42,352

WEATHER AND CROP REPORT.

For the week ending the 20th September 1897.

Burdwan.—Rainfall at Sadar 3·07, Kalna 3·30, Katwa 1·70, Raniganj 1·36. Weather seasonable. Growth of *aman* good. Harvesting of *aus* and jute continues. Standing crops doing well. Fodder sufficient. Condition of cattle good. Common rice selling as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	...	8 to 10
Kalna	...	7 to 9
Katwa	...	8½ to 12
Raniganj	...	9

per rupee.

Birbhum.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·53, Rampur Hat 2·42. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops favourable. Price of rice at Sadar 8½ seers, and at Rampur Hat 8 seers 11 chitaks per rupee. Fodder sufficient.

Bankura.—Rainfall at Bankura 1·23, Vishnupur 1·67, Gangajalghati 2·39, Sonamukhi 2·55, Raipur 1·50, Khatra 54. Weather hot and generally fair. *Aus* paddy being harvested. *Aman* doing well. Price of common rice at Bankura 11 seers, Vishnupur 10 seers 10 chitaks, Sonamukhi 11½ seers, Khatra and Taldangra 10 seers, Mejia and Raipur 9½ seers, Gangajalghati and Saltora 9 seers, Indpur 9½ seers, Simlapal 8½ seers, Ohhatna 8½ seers. Price near relief-works 8½ to 11½ seers. Numbers on relief—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	4,657	2,213	116	6,986
Gratuitously relieved	345	861	837	2,043
Total				9,029

Relieved from Charitable Fund.—

By money doles	...	281	529	455	1,265
In kitchens	...	6	40	7	53
Total					1,318

Midnapore.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·53, Contai 65, Tamluk 1·21, Ghatal 5·18. Agricultural prospects favourable. No cattle-disease. Price of common rice—

	Srs.	
Sadar	...	9
Contai	...	9 to 11
Tamluk	...	8½
Ghatal	...	9 to 10

per rupee.

Hooghly.—Rainfall at Sadar 4·15, Serampore 2·61, Jahanabad 2·90. Harvesting of *aus* and cutting and steeping of jute going on. Prospects of crops continue good.

Howrah.—Rainfall at Sadar 3·76, Ulubaria 4·89. Weather hot with constant showers. The rainfall has been beneficial to the standing crops. Transplantation of *aman* over. Prospects good. Harvesting of *aus* still continues. Fodder sufficient. Common rice sells at 7 to 10½ seers per rupee.

24-Parganas.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·47, Barasat 2·10, Basirhat 4·24, Diamond Harbour 1·76. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops favourable. Transplantation of *aman* still continues in places. Cutting and steeping of jute and harvesting of *aus* going on. A few cases of cattle-pox reported from Diamond Harbour. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	...	6½ to 8½
Barasat	...	7
Basirhat	...	8
Diamond Harbour	...	8

per rupee.

Nadia.—Rainfall at Sadar 4·16, Kushtia 3·36, Meherpur 6·86, Ranaghat 3·11, Chuadanga 5·70, Nischindipur 4·10, Shikarpur 4·50. Harvesting of *aus* continues. Til, rahar, and chillies doing well. *Aman* promising. Fodder ample. Price of new rice varies from 9½ to 12 seers, and that of old rice from 7 to 7½ seers per rupee. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 18th September—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In poor-houses	16	7	Nil	23

Murshidabad.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·21, Jangipur 2·86, Kandi 0·98. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *bhadoi* paddy nearly finished, and the outturn is estimated at 14 annas on the whole. State of sugarcane good. *Aman* prospects favourable. Fodder sufficient. No cattle-disease reported. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.
Sadar	9½
Jangipur	9
Kandi	9

} per rupee.

Jessore.—Weather cloudy with occasional showers. Rainfall at Jessore 2·60, Jhenida 3·42, Magura 5·25, Narail 6·78, Bangaon 4·64. Harvesting of *aus* nearly over, and that of jute still going on. Prospects of *aman* good. Fodder sufficient. No cattle-disease reported. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.
Jessore	9½ to 11½
Jhenida	10 to 10½
Magura	9½ to 10½
Bangaon	10 to 12
Narail	9 to 9·6½oh.

} per rupee.

Khulna.—Rainfall at Sadar 5·48, Bagerhat 5·17, Satkhira 3·82. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aus* and jute and transplanting of *aman* being rapidly completed. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.
Sadar	7 to 9½
Bagerhat	8
Satkhira	8 to 9

} per rupee.

Fodder available. Numbers on relief—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In poor-houses	49	291	522	862
Otherwise relieved gratuitously	220	2,068	681	2,969
Total				3,831
Relieved from Charitable Fund	131	1,244	484	1,859

Rajshahi.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·57, Nator 5·27, Nangaon 2·25. Prospects of standing crops good. Harvesting of *aus* and transplanting of *aman* still going on. Condition of cattle good. Fodder ample. Common rice sells from 7 to 12 seers per rupee.

Dinajpur.—Average rainfall 2·29. Weather hot with occasional showers of rain. Steeping of jute in progress. Harvesting of *bhadoi* and transplanting of winter rice nearly finished. Fodder sufficient. Cattle-disease in Porsha. Price of rice (new *bhadoi*) 8½ seers and (old *haimanti*) 6½ seers per rupee.

Jalpaiguri.—Rainfall at Sadar 2·27, Alipur Duars 3·76. Weather hot. Transplantation of *haimanti* still continues. Sowing of tobacco seeds commenced in places. Fodder sufficient. Average price of common rice 8½ seers per rupee.

Darjeeling.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·43, Siliguri 1·30. Weather—hills, misty with little sunshine; plains, steamy. Hills—*bara marua*, *haimanti*, *kalai*, and *bhutmas* progressing favourably. Terai—*bhadoi* being harvested, *haimanti* being transplanted. Price of coarse rice—

	Srs.
Hills	6 to 7 seers per rupee.
Terai	7 to 8 " "
<i>Bhutta</i> (old) 13 seers and (new) 40 seers per rupee.	

Rangpur.—Rainfall at Sadar 3·56; district average rainfall 3·52. Cutting and steeping of jute continue. Transplantation of *aman* almost finished. Prospects good. Common rice sells at 5 to 9 seers per rupee. Fodder sufficient except in some places in the Gaibanda subdivision

Bogra.—Rainfall at Sadar 4·14, Sherpur 8·20, Naukhila 2·38, Panchibibi 3·05. Transplanting of winter rice nearly finished all over the district except the eastern tracts now flooded. Harvesting of jute in progress. Fodder ample. Price of common rice—*aman* 6 seers 9 chitacks, *aus* 7 seers 9 chitacks, Burma rice 7 seers 10 chitacks.

Pabna.—Rainfall at Sadar 3·18, Sirajganj 3·55. Weather partially cloudy and rainy. *Aman* prospects excellent. High floods at Sirajganj were of short duration; no damage done. Price of rice 7½ to 9 seers, per rupee. Fodder plentiful. No cattle-disease.

Dacca.—Rainfall at Sadar 5·87, Manikganj 8·62, Munshiganj 8·88, Narainganj 8·86. Weather cloudy and rainy. Prospects of standing crops appear good. River gradually falling. Fodder available. No cattle-disease. Common rice 7½ seers per rupee.

Mymensingh.—Rainfall at Sadar 7·95, Netrokona 6·69, Jamalpur 8·25, Tangail 1·49, Kishorganj 9·12. Weather rainy. Cutting and steeping of jute in progress. Prospects of *aman* continue good. Common rice 7 to 8 seers per rupee.

Faridpur.—Rainfall at Sadar 5·07, Goalundo 4·56, Madaripur 1·93. Weather rainy. Prospects good. Rice 7½ to 8 seers per rupee.

Backergunge.—Rainfall at Sadar 5·54. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops good. Common rice sells from 6 to 9 seers per rupee.

Tippera.—Rainfall at Comilla 6·38, Brahmanbaria 4·01, Chandpur 3·02. Weather seasonable. Reaping of jute still continues. Water reported to be rising daily in jurisdiction of Brahmanbaria and Kasba police-stations, where damage to road apprehended; elsewhere prospects good. No cattle-disease. Fodder sufficient. Price of common rice—

Comilla	...	...	8	seers per rupee.
Brahmanbaria	...	...	8½	"
Chandpur	...	...	8	"

Noakhali.—Rainfall at Sadar 7·85, Feni 6·15. Harvesting of *aus* nearly finished. Transplantation of *aman* going on. Prospects good. Fodder sufficient. Price of rice (*aman*) 6 to 7 seers and (*aus*) 8 to 9 seers per rupee.

Chittagong.—Rainfall 5·41. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aus* and transplanting of *aman* still continue. Prospects good. Fodder abundant. Rice sells at 9 seers per rupee.

Patna.—Rainfall at Sadar 5·57, Dinapore 7·1, Barh 9·2, Bihar 10, Hilsa 25. Prospect of paddy and sugarcane favourable. *Bhadoi* crops being still harvested in places. Land being ploughed for *rabi* sowings. Fodder sufficient. Prices stationary. Common rice selling in Patna at 9½ seers per rupee. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 18th September:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In poor-houses	97	88	65	240
Otherwise relieved	1732	580	309	1,621
		Total	...	1,861

Gaya.—Rainfall at Sadar 28, Jahanabad 58, Aurangabad 84, Nawada 18. Harvesting of *bhadoi* continues. Paddy doing well. Price of Burma rice 8½ seers and of country rice 7½ seers per rupee.

Shahabad.—Rainfall at Sadar 47, Sasaram 188, Bhabua 05, Buxar 45. Paddy being weeded. Cutting of *murua* and *makai* over. Preparation of fields for *rabi* in progress. Sugarcane excellent. Prices stationary. Fodder sufficient. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 18th September—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In poor-houses and kitchens—				
Bhabua	174	208	401	783
Otherwise relieved—				
Bhabua	37	60	56	153
Arrah	8	6	5	19
Sasaram	8	16	3	17
		Total	...	972
Relieved from Charitable Fund	114	4,409	286	4,809

Saran.—Rainfall at Sadar 08, Siwan 200, Gopalganj 273. Weather hot and cloudy. Harvesting of *bhadoi* in full swing. Prospects of *aghani* good. Average prices are—common rice 8½ seers, Burma rice 9½ seers, wheat 9½ seers, barley 12½ seers, *makai* 15½ seers, gram 9½ seers, *arhar* 10½ seers, *marua* 17½ seers. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 18th September—

		Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Sadar subdivision—					
In poor-houses	...	1	2	5	8
In kitchens	...	32	73	1,742	1,847
Otherwise relieved	...	225	454	50	729
Siwan subdivision—					
Relief-workers	...	71	Nil	Nil	71
In kitchens	...	21	36	498	550
Otherwise relieved	...	550	1,546	860	2,956
Gopalganj subdivision—					
Relief-workers	...	494	835	425	1,754
Dependants	...	Nil	Nil	26	26
In kitchens	...	Nil	Nil	2,007	2,007
Otherwise relieved	...	400	877	128	1,405
Total				...	11,353
Relieved from Charitable Fund—					
Sadar	...	48	309	62	419
Gopalganj	...	464	1,659	295	2,408
Total				...	2,827
Private relief—					
Hatwa—					
In poor-houses	...	52	130	123	342
In kitchens	...	Nil	Nil	308	308
Otherwise relieved	...	37	111	47	195
Total				...	845

Champaran.—Weather rainy in the latter half of the week. Rainfall at Motihari 4.39, Bettiah 3.88, Barharwa 3.22, Bagaha 3.83, Ramnagar 7.01. Crop prospects favourable. *Bhadoi* crops being harvested. Some rice transplantation still going on. Damage by floods not great except in areas always liable to such. Price of maize fallen greatly, that of other crops fallen slightly. Motihari prices—common rice 8½ seers, wheat 8 seers, gram 10½ seers, *rahar* 11 seers, maize 15½ seers. Numbers on relief—

		Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Sadar subdivision—					
Relief-workers	...	167	115	50	332
In poor-houses	...	139	184	146	469
In kitchens	...	271	625	964	1,860
Bettiah subdivision—					
Relief-workers	...	2,289	1,476	749	4,464
In poor-houses	...	153	115	85	353
In kitchens	...	334	437	624	1,395
Otherwise relieved	...	735	2,088	502	3,325
Total				...	12,198
Relieved from Charitable Fund	...	3,033	7,936	3,015	13,984

Muzaffarpur.—Rainfall 1.37. Prospects good. *Makai* being harvested. Prices are—Burma rice 9 seers, common rice 7½ seers, wheat 9 seers, *makai* 15 to 20 seers, barley 12 seers, gram 9 seers, *rahar* 10 seers, *marua* 17 to 18 seers. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 18th September:—

		Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Sadar subdivision—					
In poor-houses	...	15	17	9	41
All other relief closed.					

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Hajipur subdivision—All relief closed.				
Sitamarhi subdivision—				
Relief-workers	24	33	4	61
In poor-houses	64	70	24	158
In kitchens	Nil	8	553	561
Otherwise relieved	237	1,001	211	1,449
Total				2,270
Relieved from Charitable Fund—				
Sadar		Sex not given.		124
Sitamarhi	85	674	185	944
Total				1,068
Private relief—				
Darbhanga Raj—				
Gratuitous relief	15	72	42	129

Darbhanga.—Rainfall at Sadar '43, Samastipur 1'83, Madhubani 1'10. Prospects of crops good. Harvesting of *marua* and *makai* in progress. Transplantation of *alua* and tobacco commenced in Samastipur. Small-pox has appeared amongst cattle in some parts of Samastipur. Fodder available. Common rice sells at 8½ seers per rupee at Sadar. Price of *makai* 15 seers per rupee. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 18th September:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Sadar subdivision—				
Relief-workers	74	308	Nil	382
Dependants	12	Nil	Nil	12
In poor-houses	98	196	75	369
In kitchens	307	815	4,106	5,228
Otherwise relieved	3,448	12,342	1,136	16,926
Madhubani subdivision—				
Relief-workers	68	122	52	242
In kitchens	199	1,199	3,948	5,346
Otherwise relieved	715	1,777	474	2,966
Samastipur subdivision—				
No relief works open: all finally closed.				

				Total	...	31,471
Relieved from Charitable Fund	...	3,534	15,245	6,655		25,434

Raj relief closed. All relief in this district closed with one or two exceptions on Saturday.

Monghyr.—Rainfall at Sadar 2'21, Begusarai '05, Jamui '88. Harvesting of *bhadoi* paddy nearly completed. Winter paddy and sugarcane doing well, but will require more rain by the end of the month. No cattle-disease. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	Srs.	
Monghyr	7 to 10
Begusarai	6 to 8
Jamui	8
			} per rupee.

Bhagalpur.—Weather seasonable. Rainfall at Sadar 5'11, Banka '40, Supaul '52. Harvesting of *bhadoi* continues. Prospects favourable. Fodder sufficient. Cattle-disease reported here and there. Prices of staple food-grains show a tendency to decline. Retail prices are:—

	Common rice.	Wheat.	Kurthi.	Barley.	Gram.	Marua.	Indian-corn.
	Srs. a.	Srs. c.	Srs. c.	Srs. c.	Srs. c.	Srs. c.	Srs. c.
Sadar	8 14	8 14	10 2	11 6	9 3	...	13 14
Banka	8 12	8 7	...	...	10 0	20 0	20 0
Madhipura	9 0	...	10 0	...	...	25 0	...
Supaul	12 0	...	10 0	...	...	22 0	...
				Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relieved from Charitable Fund	...			577	1,262	496	2,335

Purnea.—Rainfall at Sadar 2·10, Kishanganj ·08, Araria ·34. Crop prospects good. Slight damage by floods. A few cases of cattle-disease reported from the Araria subdivision. Fodder sufficient. Price of *bhadoi* rice at Sadar 8½ seers, Kishanganj 9 seers, and at Araria 11 seers per rupee.

Malda.—Rainfall at Sadar 4·40, Chanchal 1·22, Shibganj 4·40, Gajole 1·69. Prospects good. River falling. New *bhadoi* rice selling at 9 seers per rupee.

Sonthal Parganas.—Average rainfall 2·24, highest (5·29) at Pakur and lowest (·15) at Deoghur. More rain wanted at Deoghur and Jamtara for winter crops. *Bhadoi* crops good. Prices are—rice 7½ to 10 seers, maize 12 to 40 seers per rupee.

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Jamtara (17th September)—				
Charitable Relief Fund ...	178	386	694	1,258
Private works ...	65	93	Nil	158

Cuttack.—Rainfall at Sadar ·16, Jajpur ·45, False Point ·30, Kendrapara 2·97. Weather seasonable. Reaping of early *beali* continues. Late *beali* ripening. Weeding of *sarad* in progress. Prospects good. Condition of cattle generally good. Fodder sufficient. Insects damaging rice crops in places. Common rice sells as follows:—

				Srs. o.	
Cuttack	10 8	} per rupee.
Kendrapara ...	...	...	...	14 7(new)
Jajpur ...	...	...	...	11 13
Banki ...	...	...	...	11 13

Numbers on relief on Saturday, 18th September —

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Charitable Relief Fund ...	169	950	448	1,567
Private charity (wards' estates) ...	72	310	160	542

Balasore.—Rainfall at Sadar ·71. *Beali* and jute crops being harvested. Weeding of *sarad* continues. Damage done by insects in Bhadrak reported to be insignificant. Sugar-cane growing well. Cattle-disease reported in a mild form from a few places. Price of rice varies from 11½ to 17 seers per rupee in the interior. Rice sells at 11½ and 14 seers per rupee at Balasore and Bhadrak respectively. Fodder sufficient.

Angul.—Rainfall at Angul ·84, Khondmals ·8. *Beali* paddy being harvested. Sowing of *rabi* crops in progress. Common rice at Angul 16 seers and at Khondmals 12 seers per rupee.

Puri.—Rainfall at Puri 3·09. *Beali* being reaped. *Sarad* being weeded and transplanted. Famine wage calculated at 9 to 10 seers per rupee.

Hazaribagh.—Weather seasonable. Rainfall at Sadar ·76, Giridih ·88. Prospects continue favourable. *Bhadoi* harvest in progress. Price of rice 6 to 8½ seers per rupee. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 18th September —

Sadar subdivision—	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In kitchens ...	44	53	114	211
Charitable Relief Fund ...	58	Nil	Nil	58

Lohardaga.—Rainfall 2·15. Sowing of *kurthi* and *sargunja* continues. Prospects of standing crops excellent. Rice selling at Ranchi 8 seers, and in the interior from 5 to 8 seers per rupee. Health of cattle good. Fodder sufficient. Grain in stock sufficient for the present.

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In kitchens ...	130	172	831	1,133
Relieved from Charitable Relief Fund ...	85	217	813	1,115

Palaman.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·00, Balumath 2·80, Hussenabad ·35. Weather seasonable. *Bhadoi* being harvested. Prospects of winter rice crop good. Prices are—rice 6 to 10½ seers, *gondli* 20 seers, *sawan* 28 seers, *marua* and *mahua* 15 seers. Fodder plentiful.

Manbhum.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·02, Gobindpur ·89. Weather seasonable, but less rain than last week. Prospects of crops continue good. Early paddy being out. Cattle-

disease not prevalent. Fodder sufficient. Average price of common rice 8 seers 6 chataks per rupee. Supply as yet sufficient.

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers ...	7,148	4,204	597	11,949
Gratuitously relieved ...	61	124	59	244
In kitchens ...	424	585	2,583	3,592
Otherwise relieved ...	169	1,399	Nil	1,568
(Cotton spinning and weaving).				
Total				17,353

Singhbhum.—Rainfall at Chaibassa 13, Chakradharpur 2.19, Kalikapur 1.72, Ghatsila 1.06. Rice plentiful; price 8 to 12 seers per rupee.

General Summary.—There was general rain during the week. The fall was heavy over a considerable part of Bengal Proper and in the Champaran district. The general agricultural prospects are favourable throughout the Province. The transplantation of winter rice is almost over, and the young plants are doing well. Early rice is still being harvested. Jute is being cut, steeped and washed. The harvesting of *bhadoi* crops in Bihar and Chota Nagpur is in progress. Sugarcane generally promises well. The ploughing of lands for *rabi* has commenced in places. Insects are still infesting the rice plants in Cuttack. The price of common rice remained practically unchanged since last week, but that of the *bhadoi* food-grains in Bihar has fallen. In the distressed districts the prices of the staple food-grain on which the famine wage is based are—Bankura (common rice) 8½ to 11½ seers, Saran (Indian-corn) 15½ seers, Champaran (Indian-corn) 15½ seers, Muzaffarpur (Indian-corn), 15 to 20 seers, Darbhanga (Indian-corn) 15 seers, Puri (common rice) 9 to 10 seers, Manbhum (common rice) 8½ seers.

Numbers on Government relief on Saturday, the 18th September—

	Week under report.	Preceding week.
Bankura ...	9,029	9,353
Nadia ...	23	3,492
Khulna ...	3,831	4,374
Patna ...	1,861	1,816
Shahabad ...	972	4,394
Saran ...	11,353	21,949
Champaran ...	12,198	18,209
Muzaffarpur ...	2,270	19,497
Darbhangha ...	31,471	53,651
Puri ...	.....	3,436
Hazaribagh ...	211	229
Lohardaga ...	1,133	1,695
Manbhum ...	17,353	6,697
Total	91,705	148,792

Numbers relieved from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund—

	Week under report.	Preceding week.
Bankura ...	1,318	1,400
Khulna ...	1,859	1,914
Shahabad ...	4,809	3,822
Saran ...	2,827	2,524
Champaran ...	13,984	14,984
Muzaffarpur ...	1,068	17,526
Darbhangha ...	25,434	26,090
Bhagalpur ...	2,335	2,846
Sonthal Parganas ...	1,258	1,282
Cuttack ...	1,567	2,855
Hazaribagh ...	58	87
Lohardaga ...	1,115	1,615
Total	57,632	76,945

The above totals are distributed as follows:—

	MEN.		WOMEN.		CHILDREN.		TOTAL.	
	Present week.	Next preceding week.	Present week.	Next preceding week.	Present week.	Next preceding week.	Present week.	Next preceding week.
Relief-workers	14,942	10,298	9,808	7,015	1,093	2,055	26,241	19,368
Dependants	12	11	Nil	Nil	35	129	35	140
In poor-houses and kitchens ...	2,668	3,916	5,181	7,887	19,287	24,055	27,096	45,858
Otherwise relieved	7,890	17,101	25,189	53,985	5,311	12,380	38,390	83,426
Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. (The sex of 124 recipients of this class of relief has not been reported)	8,703	11,156	34,600	37,946	13,885	16,816	57,508	65,948 (+ 10,007,002 not shown).

Private relief—

Relief works—

Men. Women. Children. Total.

Sonthal Parganas—

Jamtara ... 65 93 Nil 158

Gratuitous relief—

Darbhanga Raj—

Muzaffarpur 15 72 42 129

Hatwa ... 126 241 478 845

Cuttack (wards' estates) ... 72 310 160 542

Total ... 1,674, against 10,394 in the preceding week.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,

The 21st September 1897.

M. FINUCANE,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

**PRICES-CURRENT (RETAIL) OF FOOD-GRAINS AND SALT IN THE HEAD-QUARTERS
STATION BAZARS OF THE DISTRICTS OF BENGAL DURING THE
FORTNIGHT ENDING THE 15TH SEPTEMBER 1907.**

PRICES-CURRENT (retail) of Food-grains and Salt in the Head

Number.		DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN																	
			WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			JOWAR OR CHOLU. (Sorghum Vulgare.)					
			Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.			
BENGAL.																				
BURDWAN DIVISION.	1	Burdwan	...	...	10 0	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	9 0	8 8	8 4	12 0	...	...	...
	2	Birbhum	7 8	8 0	11 0	...	...	...	6 12	6 6	9 12	8 4	8 0	12 0	...	...	...
	3	Bankura	8 16	8 14	11 4	...	...	...	8 2	7 4	13 12	11 0	10 0	16 4	...	...	...
	4	Midnapore	7 8	8 0	13 0	...	...	...	7 8 to 7 12	7 8 to 8 0	11 0	8 8	8 8 to 8 12	16 0	...	...	...
	5	Hooghly	10 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	8 0	7 8	7 12	10 14	...	...	...
	6	Howrah	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 5	7 0	9 7	7 10	8 0	12 5	...	...	...
PRESIDENCY DIVISION.	7	24-Parganas	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 8	6 4	7 0 to 8 0	7 0	7 4	11 0 to 12 0	...	...	...
	8	Calcutta	7 4	8 0	11 0	8 0	9 0	16 0	5 4	5 8	6 12	7 0	7 0	10 0	7 0	8 0	16 0			
	9	Nadia	8 10	9 0	12 5	...	...	20 0	5 11	5 11	7 4	8 0	7 6	11 7	...	...	...
	10	Murshidabad	8 0	8 4	11 8	...	10 0	20 0	7 0	7 0	9 8	Old 8 0 New aus 10 0	Old 8 0 New aus 9 8	11 8	...	...	...
	11	Jessore	8 0	8 0	12 4	8 0	8 0	13 0	6 4	6 8	9 0	10 0	10 10	11 0	...	...	...
	12	Khulna	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	8 6	9 0	8 0	8 12	...	...	...
RAJBHARI DIVISION.	13	Rajshahi	8 4	7 14	12 0	...	...	4	5 4	6 0	7 8	8 0 New aus 9 12	6 15 9 12	9 0	...	...	...
	14	Dinajpur	7 12	8 0	10 12	8 0	...	...	5 6	5 6	8 4	6 4 Old 6 4	6 4	10 12	...	...	...
	15	Jalpaiguri	8 0	7 8	10 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0 Now 8 1	8 0	10 0	...	...	...
	16	Darjeeling	6 0	6 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	9 0	5 0	5 0	8 8	7 0	7 8	10 0	...	...	...
	17	Rangpur	6 12	6 12	10 8	...	...	...	5 4	5 4	5 5	6 0 6 6	6 0	8 0	...	...	...
	18	Bogra	6 24	7 2	12 0	...	...	...	4 8	5 4	7 8	Now aus 7 8 Burma rice. 7 14	6 6 8 10	9 12	...	...	...
DACCA DIVISION.	19	Pabna	7 14	7 14	12 0	12 12	12 12	21 4	6 0	6 0	6 6	8 10	9 0	9 7	...	...	...
	20	Dacca	8 0	8 0	10 0	11 4	11 4	...	8 0	5 8	7 0	6 14	7 0	8 12	...	...	...
	21	Mymensingh	7 0	7 0	9 8	...	...	...	6 0	5 0	7 8	6 8	6 8	8 0	...	...	...
	22	Faridpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 4	5 4	7 0	8 8	8 0	9 0	...	...	...
23	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 12	6 12	8 0	7 0 Aus 9 4	7 2	8 14 Aus 10 2	...	...	...	

- A. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kalna 10 seers (panga) and 11 seers (karkatch), Katwa 10 seers 2 chitaks (karkatch), and Kanganj 10½ seers (panga).
- B. At Rampur Hat the retail price of salt is 11 seers per rupee.
- C. At Vishnupur the retail price of salt is 9½ seers per rupee.
- D. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Contai 10 seers (panga), Tamluk 10 seers, and Ghatal 10½ seers.
- E. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Serampore 10 seers and Jahanabad 9 seers (panga).
- F. At Ulubaria the retail price of salt is 10 seers 10½ chitaks per rupee.
- G. In the marts in the interior of the district the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Ohetla 10 seers, Baranati 10 seers, Magrahat no return, and Baduria 10½ seers.
- H. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kushtia (Bahadurkhal) 10½ seers (panga), Mohorpur 10 seers 6 chitaks, Chuadanga 9 seers (panga), and Kanaganj 1½ seers (crushed).
- I. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Balough 10 seers (karkatch), Kandi 11 seers (karkatch), and Jangipar 10½ seers.
- J. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Jhenida 9 seers 1 chitak, Magura 8 seers 11 chitaks, Narail 8 seers 11 chitaks, and Baugon 9 seers 2 chitaks.

KANGNI OR KARUN, ITALIAN MILLET. (<i>Setaria Italica</i> .)			GRAM, CHANA, CHHOLA, KADALAY, OR SUNAGA. (<i>Cicer arretinum</i> .)		
Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	re- Corresponding turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	re- Corresponding turn of last year.

S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
...	7	8	8	0	15	0		
...	7	8	8	0	14	0		
...	9	0	9	0	15	0		
...	7	8	7	8	14	0		
...	8	0	9	0	13	8		
...	8	0	8	0	15	3		
...	7	8	7	8	14	0		
7	0	7	0	10	10	7	0	8	0	13	0
...	8	0	8	10	17	12		
...	8	8	9	0	18	0		
...	8	0	8	0	16	0		
...	7	0	7	0	13	8		
...	8	4	8	10	18	0		
...	7	11	8	0	14	0		
...	8	0	8	0	14	0		
...	7	0	7	0	11	0		
...	8	0	8	8	12	12		
...	7	8	7	8	15	0		
...	8	12	8	12	16	12		
...	7	12	7	12	12	0		
...	8	0	8	0	12	8		
...	6	8	7	12	15	0		
...	7	0	7	0	13	4		

SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

BAJRA OR CUMBU. (<i>Pennisetum typhoid-</i> <i>eum.</i>)			MARUA OR RAOL. (<i>Eleusine Corocana.</i>)		
Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.

S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
...
...
...
...
...
...

...
6	0	7	0	18	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
...
...
...
...
...

...
...
...
...
...	...	...	...	11	0	11	0	10	0	...	...
...
...
...

...
...
...
...

PRICES-CURRENT (retail) of Food-grains and Salt in the Head-quarters

Number.	DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN																
		WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			JOWAR OR OHOLUN. (Sorghum Vulgare)				
		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.		
BENGAL—concluded.																		
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.	24	Tippera	...	...	10 0	...	...	...	5 11	5 11	6 11	6 10	7 8	7 4	...	...	...
	25	Noakhali	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 0	6 4	7 0	9 0	Aus. 10 8		...	...	...
	26	Chittagong	...	...	10 4	...	...	...	6 4	6 12	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	...	...	...
BIHAR.																		
PATNA DIVISION.	27	Patna	...	10 0	10 0	11 0 and 11 8	12 8	12 0	16 0	8 0	7 8	10 0	9 8	9 0	12 0	...	...	...
	28	Gaya	...	8 4	8 8	10 0	10 8	11 4	14 8	6 4	5 8	8 0	6 12	7 4	12 0	...	8 4	15 0
	29	Shahabad	...	9 0	10 8 & 11 0	...	9 0	13 0 & 15 0	...	7 0 & 7 8	8 0	...	7 12 & 8 0	11 0 & 11 8	...	...	...
	30	Saran	...	9 8	9 4	10 8	10 8	10 0	15 8	6 0	6 8	7 8	9 0	8 9	11 0	...	...	...
	31	Champaran	...	8 12	8 12	11 8	11 12	12 0	17 8	6 4	7 10	8 8	9 8	9 0	18 0	...	...	...
	32	Muzaffarpur	...	9 0	8 12	11 0	13 0	13 0	17 0	5 8	6 0	8 12	7 8	7 8	11 0	8 4	9 0	Burma rice. ...
33	Darbhanga	...	7 8	7 8	10 0	10 0	9 8	18 0	6 8	6 8	9 8	9 8	8 0	12 8	...	...	...
BHAGALPUR DIVISION.	34	Monghyr	...	8 12	8 10	10 8	9 7	10 8	16 8	5 4	5 4	7 8	7 5	7 11	9 8	...	...	...
	35	Bhagalpur	...	8 14	8 14	10 11	11 6	11 6	15 2	7 0	6 11	8 13	8 14	7 10	12 10	...	...	...
	36	Purnea (Kasba)	...	8 0	8 0	18 0	13 0	9 0	20 0	6 0	7 8	8 0	9 0	10 2	11 0	10 0	10 0	...
	37	Malda (English Bazar).	...	8 8	8 4	11 0	...	...	...	6 8	6 4	9 0	9 0	8 8	10 8	...	...	...
	38	Sonthal Parganas.	...	7 12	7 12	9 8	9 8	10 0	15 0	7 0	6 8	11 0	9 0	7 2	11 12	...	...	...
ORISSA.																		
ORISSA DIVISION.	39	Cuttack	...	7 4	7 9	7 14	...	...	...	7 14	7 14	10 8	10 8	10 8	16 6	...	...	...
	40	Balasore	...	10 0	10 0	12 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	9 0	9 0 to 10 0	13 0	11 8	12 8 to 13 0	16 0	...	...	...
	41	Puri	...	7 0	5 14	10 8	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	10 8	10 0	10 0	17 2	...	...	...
CHOTA NAGPUR.																		
CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.	42	Hasaribagh	...	7 8	7 8	10 0	10 0	8 0	14 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	11 0	...	...	...
	43	Lohardaga	...	5 8 to 7 4	5 0 to 6 8	7 0 to 10 0	...	...	...	6 4	5 12 to 6 0	10 0	7 8	7 0	12 0	...	...	...
	44	Palamanu	...	7 14	7 0	9 9	11 4	10 2	15 8	9 2	6 8	8 7	10 6	7 14	9 9	...	...	...
	45	Manbhum	...	8 8	8 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	...	9 0	7 8	12 0 to 13 0	9 8	8 4	14 0	...	...	...
	46	Singhbhum	...	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	8 0	7 0	14 0	9 0	8 0	16 0	...	...	...

U. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Chandpur 9 seers and Brahmanbaria 9 seers 2 chitaks.

V. At Feni Hat the retail price of salt is 8 seers per rupee.

W. At Cox's Bazar the retail price of salt is 8½ seers per rupee.

X. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Dinapore 9½ seers, Barh 10 seers, and Bihar no return.

Y. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Jahanabad 10 seers, Aurangabad 9½ seers, and Nawada 9 seers.

Z. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Siwan 12 seers and Gopalganj (Mirganj) 11 seers 14 chitaks.

AA. At Bettiah the retail price of salt is 9½ seers per rupee.

BB. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Sitamarhi 10 seers and Hajipur 9½ seers.

CC. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Madhubani 10 seers 7 chitaks and Samastipur 11 seers.

CALCUTTA,

The 21st September 1897.

EERS OF 80 TOLARS.

BAJRA OR CUMBU. (<i>Pennisetum typhos-</i> <i>um.</i>)			MARUA OR RAGH. (<i>Elousine Corocana.</i>)		
Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.

S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
...
...
...

...	...	...	17 0	15 0	18 0
...	...	...	12 0	11 4	16 0
...
...	...	...	18 0	18 0	22 0
...	...	...	17 8	...	...
...	...	...	19 0	17 0	20 0
...	...	...	18 0	18 0	21 0

...
...
...	...	...	20 0	18 0	...
...
...

...
...
...

...	...	...	12 0	9 0	18 0
...	...	...	9 0	8 0	23 0
...	...	...	...	...	16 14
...
...

KANONI OR KAKUN, ITALIAN MILLET. (<i>Sesaria italica</i> .)			GRAM, CHANA, CHHOLA, KADALAY OR SUNAGA. (<i>Cicer arietinum</i> .)		
Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	re- Corresponding turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	re- Corresponding turn of last year.

S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
...	13	0
...	7	0	8	0	13	0	...	...
...	8	0	8	0	10	0	...	...

14	0	12	0	20	0	8	12	9	12	14	8
11	4	9	4	16	0	8	12	8	12	14	0
...	...	...	...	...	...	{	9 0	14 8	{	...	...
8	0	9	0	16	0	9	0	9	4	15	0
...	...	...	...	...	...	10	4	10	8	15	8
...	...	...	...	...	...	9	0	9	8	16	0
...	...	...	...	...	...	8	4	8	8	15	0

...	...	13	0	9	7	9	7	15	8
...	...	...	...	9	8	9	8	15	2
20	0	...	...	9	0	8	0	16	0
...	...	...	...	8	8	8	0	17	0
...	...	...	...	8	0	8	0	14	0

...	...	...	...	10	8	11	3	17	12
...	...	...	...	8	0	8	0	13	0
...	...	...	...	10	0	9	0	17	0
...	...	...	...	8	15	9	3	14	7

...	...	...	...	8	0	8	4	12	0
...	...	...	...	{	7 0	6 12	{	...	...
...	...	...	...	{	7 4	7 0	{	...	...
...	...	...	...	9	0	7	14	11	13
...	...	...	...	8	4	8	8	18	0
...	...	...	...	8	0	8	0	12	0

Station Returns of the Districts of Bengal on the 15th September 1897—(concluded).

												WHOLESALE PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 SEERS.			DISTRICTS.	Number.				
INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE. (Zea mays.)			ARRAR OR THUR, CADJAN PEA. (Cajanus indicus.)			SALT.			SALT.											
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.									
BENGAL—concluded.																				
S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.			
...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	9 0	8 0	9 0	4 7	1 1	4 7	1 1	4 0	0			Tippora.	24	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 2	4 12	0 4	12 0	4 0	0			Noakhali.	25
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 8	10 0	10 0	3 12	0 4	0 0	3 12	0			Chittagong.	26
BIHAR.																				
16 0	10 8	17 8	10 8	11 0	17 0	10 8	10 8	10 0	3 11	0	3 11	0	3 11	0	3 11	0			Patna.	27
10 4	13 4	...	10 0	9 8	17 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	3 13	0	3 13	0	4 0	0	4 0	0			Gaya.	28
...	10 8	17 0	10 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 8	1 0	0	3 11	0	3 11	0	3 11	0			Shahabad.	29
12 0	10 0	17 0	10 0	10 0	16 0	10 4	10 4	10 4	3 4	0	3 14	0	3 14	0	3 14	0			Saran.	30
13 8	10 8	17 8	11 0	11 0	16 8	10 8	10 15	10 0	3 12	0	3 10	0	4 0	0	4 0	0			Champaran.	31
14 0	13 0	19 0	10 0	10 8	17 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	3 10	0	3 10	0	3 10	0	3 10	0			Muzaffarpur.	32
14 0	14 4	20 0	9 0	9 8	15 0	9 12	9 8	10 8	3 19	0	3 12	0	3 12	0	3 12	0			Darbhanga.	33
12 9	13 10	19 0	8 10	9 7	15 0	10 8	10 8	10 4	3 11	6	3 11	6	3 10	6	3 10	6			Monghyr.	34
14 0	10 12	17 10	...	...	16 6	10 0	10 0	10 1	4 0	0	4 0	0	3 10	0	3 10	0			Bhagalpur.	35
18 0	13 0	16 0	11 0	10 0	16 0	10 8	10 0	10 8	3 12	0	4 0	0	3 10	1	3 10	1			Purnea (Kasba).	36
...	...	25 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	...	4 1	6 4	2 0	...	...	...	...	...			Malda (English Bazar).	37
21 0	8 8	20 0	9 0	8 0	14 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	3 12	0	3 12	0	3 14	0	3 14	0			Sonthal Parganas.	38
ORISSA.																				
...	...	...	10 8	9 14	17 12	10 12	10 12	10 12	3 8	0	3 3	0	3 4	0	3 4	0			Cuttack.	39
...	...	...	6 6	6 6	10 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	3 9	0	3 9	0	3 10	0	3 10	0			Balasore.	40
...	...	...	...	9 3	12 0	13	12 8	12 8	3 1	0	3 0	0	3 1	0	3 1	0			Puri.	41
CHOTA NAGPUR.																				
16 0	10 0	15 0	8 8	9 0	13 0	8 0	8 0	3 0	7 0	11 8	0 4	7 0	...	...	...	...			Hasanbagh.	42
...	...	14 0	6 12	6 12	9 8	8 0	8 0	9 0	4 12	0 4	12 0	4 5	0	...	...	...			Loharaga.	43
15 12	11 4	20 4	11 4	10 2	13 8	7 14	7 14	7 5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			Palamau.	44
17 0	...	32 0	...	10 0	16 0	9 2	9 2	10 10	3 14	0 3	10 0	3 13	0	3 13	0	3 13	0		Manbhum.	45
15 0	...	...	10 0	13 0	...	7 0	7 0	3 0	4 4	0 4	4 0	4 4	0	4 4	0	4 4	0		Singhbhum.	46

- d. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Bogusrai 10 seers and Jamui 10 seers.
e. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Banka 10 seers, Madhipura 9 seers, and Supaul 10 seers.
f. In the Kishanganj and Araria subdivisions the retail price of salt is 9 seers per rupee.
g. At Bala Nawabganj the retail price of salt is 9 seers per rupee.
h. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Deoghur 10 seers (panga), Godda 9 seers (mixed), Jamtara 9 seers (panga), Pakaur 1 seers (karkatch), and Rajmahal 10 seers (karkatch).
i. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Jajpur 9 seers and Kondrapara 10 seers.
j. At Bhadrak the retail price of salt (panga) is 9 seers per rupee.
k. At Giridih the retail price of salt is 10 seers per rupee.
l. At Gobindpur the retail price of salt is 10 seers per rupee.

Published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,
Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

PRICES-CURRENT (wholesale) of Food-grains, Firewood, &c.

Number.	MARTS.	RICE (BEST SORT).			COMMON RICE (mota chaul).			WHEAT (<i>Triticum sativum</i>).			BARLEY (<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>).		
		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1	Calcutta	7 0 0	6 8 0	5 6 0	5 12 0	5 8 0	3 8 0	4 12 0	4 8 0	3 4 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 6 0
2	Burdwan	5 4 0	5 4 0	4 7 0	4 10 0	4 12 0	3 5 8	...	...	4 0 0	...	...	...
3	Midnapore	5 4 0	5 0 0	3 8 0	4 8 0	4 0 0	2 10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Pabna	6 10 0	6 10 0	6 0 0	4 10 0	4 7 0	4 4 0	5 1 0	5 1 0	3 5 0	...	...	...
5	Rangpur	7 0 0	7 0 0	6 8 6	6 0 0	6 0 0	4 9 6	5 10 0	5 10 0	3 8 0	...	...	...
6	Dacca	6 10 0	6 8 0	5 8 0	5 12 0	5 10 0	4 8 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	3 12 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	...
7	Chittagong	6 4 0	6 0 0	4 12 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	3 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Fatna	4 14 0	4 14 0	3 14 0	4 2 0	4 3 0	3 5 0	3 14 0	3 14 0	3 9 0 and 3 7 0	3 1 0	3 4 0	2 7 0
9	Muzaffarpur	7 4 3	6 10 6	4 8 0	5 5 3	5 5 3	3 10 0	4 7 0	4 9 0	3 10 0	3 5 4	3 5 0	2 5 0
10	Bhagalpur	5 11 0	5 15 9	4 8 0	4 8 0	5 4 0	3 2 5	4 6 0	4 8 0	3 11 3	3 8 3	3 8 3	2 10
11	Cuttack	4 11 3	4 11 3	3 6 0	3 9 3	3 6 3	2 5 0	4 15 0	4 15 0	4 9 0	...	...	...
12	Ranchi	6 6 3	{ 6 10 6 to 6 14 6 }	4 0 0	5 5 0	5 11 0	3 5 0	{ 5 8 3 to 7 9 9 }	5 11 0 to 8 0 0 }	4 0 0	...	...	...

CALCUTTA,
The 21st September 1897.

JUAR OR CHOLUM (<i>Sorghum vulgare</i>).			BAJRA OR CUMBU (<i>Pennisetum typhoides</i>).			MARUA OR RAGI (<i>Eleusine coracina</i>).			GRAM, CHANA, CHOLA, KADALAY, OR SUNAGA (<i>Cicer arietinum</i>).		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
5 0 0	4 0 0	2 2 0	6 0 0	5 0 0	2 10 0	...	...	...	5 0 0	4 8 0	2 8 0
...	5 4 0	5 0 0	2 12 0
...
...	4 9 0	4 9 0	2 8 0
...	5 0 0	4 8 0	2 8 0
...	5 2 0	5 0 0	2 14 0
...	5 0 0	5 0 0	3 12 0
...	2 5 0	2 10 0	2 3 0	4 7 0	4 1 0	2 10 6
...	2 3 6	2 5 6	2 0 0	4 7 0	4 3 0	...
...	4 3 6	4 3 6	2 9 9
...	Biri or kalai.		2 3 0
...	8 9 3	8 6 3	} 8 10 0
...	5 8 3	5 11 0	
...	5 11 0	5 14 6	

PRICES PER MAUND

INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE (Zea mays).			ARHAR DAL OR THUR-- CADJAN PEA (Cajanus indicus).			LINSKED:			MUSTARD AND RAPSEED.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
8 10 0	4 0 0	3 4 0	4 8 0	4 0 0	2 10 0	4 12 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 12 0	5 0 0	4 8 0
...	...	...	5 12 0	5 4 0	3 0 0	...	...	...	4 10 0	4 8 0	4 10 0
...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0 0	4 0 0	5 0 0	5 4 0	5 4 0	4 12 0
...	...	...	5 12 0	5 12 0	3 14 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 14 0	5 4 0	5 4 0	3 14 0
3 12 0	4 0 0	2 10 0	6 0 0	5 12 0	3 12 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	15 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 9 0
...	...	...	6 4 0	6 4 0	3 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 10 0	4 10 0	3 12 0
2 7 0	3 11 0	2 3 3	3 10 3	3 10 0	2 5 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 5 0	3 14 0	4 3 0	4 11 0
2 13 9	3 1 0	2 1 0	5 11 3	5 11 3	3 10 0	...	...	...	...	...	4 3 0
2 13 9	3 11 6	2 4 0	4 0 0	3 15 3	2 7 6	4 8 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 7 0	4 4 0	5 0 0
...	...	...	3 9 3	3 13 0	2 3 0	...	...	...	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 13 0
...	...	...	3 0 0	5 11 0	6 10 0	4 0 0	5 11 0	5 0 0	4 7 0	5 0 0	4 12 0
									5 0 0	5 11 0	5 0 0

STANDARD SEERS.

TEA OR JINJILI SEED.			SUGAR (RAW).			COTTON, CLEANED.			JUTE.		
	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
9	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
2 0	4 12 0	4 12 0	5 4 0	5 8 0	4 10 0	17 8 0	17 8 0	17 8 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0
	...	...	4 12 0	4 10 0	4 4 0	20 4 0	18 0 0	20 0 0	...	...	...
	...	...	5 4 0	5 0 0	3 12 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	...	...	...
	...	...	3 14 0	3 14 0	0 0	24 0 0	24 4 0	23 0 0	3 8 0	4 6 0	6 10 0
	...	...	5 8 0	5 8 0	5 0 0	...	...	...	3 0 0	4 8 0	4 12 0
	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 14 0	...	...	...	3 12 0	...	5 8 0
	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	5 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	14 4 0	...	...	...
2 0	4 8 0	5 0 0	6 0 0	5 8 0	3 8 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	3 0 0
	...	...	3 0 0	...	3 10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	6 6 6	6 6 6	4 0 0	18 8 0	18 4 0	17 3 3	...	...	...
2 3	3 12 3	3 4 0	6 7 0	6 7 0	6 4 0	20 8 0	20 8 0	22 0 0	...	...	...
	...	...	8 0 0 to 6 14 0	8 0 0 to 3 14 0	5 0 0 to 5 11 6	20 0 0	20 0 0	23 0 0	...	...	...

GHI (CLARIFIED BUTTER).			TOBACCO LEAF.			HIDES (COW).			GRASS.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
32 0 0	32 0 0	34 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	250-0-0 per 100 pieces.	260-0-0 per 100 pieces.	250-0-0 per 100 pieces.	6 8 0	7 0 0	6 8 0
30 0 0	29 0 0	32 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
33 0 0	32 0 0	36 0 0	5 0 0	4 12 0	6 0 0	Uncleaned hides, per piece— 0 12 0 0 12 0 0 6 0 to 2 4 0 to 2 4 0 to 2 0 0			...	...	...
30 0 0	30 0 0	42 0 0	6 4 0	6 4 0	7 8 0	Cleaned hides, per piece— 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 8 0 to 2 8 0 to 2 8 0 to 2 2 0			...	...	...
31 0 0	30 0 0	31 0 0	4 0 0	4 8 0	7 1 9	...	...	...	7	7	14
35 0 0	35 0 0	41 8 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	9 8 0	27 0 0	27 0 0	25 0 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	2 2
40 0 0	40 0 0	37 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	6 4 0	18 0 0	18 0 0	20 0 0	...	...	...
26 0 0	26 0 0	28 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	...	...	...	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4
27 13 8	27 0 0	28 8 0	10 0 0	12 0 0	10 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
27 0 0	30 0 0	32 0 0	4 8 0	5 0 0	6 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
36 0 0	33 4 0	36 4 0	6 4 0	6 4 0	2 8 0	22 0 0	22 0 0	22 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0
32 0 0	26 10 0	31 8 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	7 12 0	per maund.			per kahan.		
40 0 0	32 0 0	40 0 0	13 0 0	13 0 0	13 0 0	1 8 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	0 3 4	0 3 4	0 3
						per piece.			per maund.		

the undermentioned Marls of Bengal on the 15th September 1897.

STRAW.			JUAB STALKS.			PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 STANDARD SEERS.									MARLS.
						IRON.			FIREWOOD.			SALT.			
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	
63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78
R. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
8 0	5 8 0	5 12 0	...	...	...	5 8 0	5 8 0	4 12 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	3 9 0	3 8 0	3 7 0	1. Calcutta.
per kahan.												Panga.			
8 0	6 8 0	10 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	8 0 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	2. Burdwan.
per kahan.															
0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	...	...	...	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	0 4 0	...	0 2 0	3 11 0	3 12 0	3 10 0	3. Midnapore.
per kahan.						4 12 0	4 12 0	4 12 0							
14 0	0 14 0	0 10 0	...	...	...	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 3	3 14	6 14 0	0 3 14 0	4. Pabna.
per maund.												Panga.			
5	5	8	...	...	...	6 8 0	7 0 0	5 8 0	0 9 0	0 8 0	0 5 0	4 0	0 4 0	0 3 13 0	5. Rangpur.
bundles per rupee.												Panga.			
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 4 0	5 4 0	5 8 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 9	4 0	0 4 0	0 3 13 0	6. Dacca.
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	...	...	...	3 12 0	4 0 0	3 12 0	7. Chittagong.
...	...	...	...	...	...							Panga.			
...	...	0 10 0	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	0 5 0	0 5 0	0 5 0	3 11 0	3 11 0	3 11 0	8. Patna.
...	...	per md.										Panga.			
...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0 0	8 0 0	7 0 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	9. Munaffapur.
...	...	...	...	...	...							Panga.			
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	0 3 9 0	4 3 0	5 0	4 0	0 4 0	0 3 10 0	10. Bhagalpur.
...	...	...	...	...	...							Panga.			
3 0	3 0 0	4 2 0	...	...	...	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 7 0	3 8 0	3 3 0	3 4 0	11. Cuttack.
per kahan.												Karkatch.			
No fixed rate.			...	...	...	5 11 0	5 11 0	5 8 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	4 12 0	4 12 0	4 5 0	12. Ranchi.
								7 6 0				Panga.			

M. FINUCANE,
Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

**Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Allpore Observatory from
12th to 18th September 1897.**

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours of bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
					Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1897.				Inches.	°	°	°	°	°	Inches.	°	%			Inches.	
Sept.	12th	147.8	6.7	29.776	83.8	88.9	10.9	78.0	79.8	0.964	78.1	83	S by W, S W, and calm.	32	Nil	Partially cloudy, o, d.
"	13th	100.4	Nil	704	78.9	80.6	7.7	72.9	77.3	.917	78.6	93	S W, W, and E by N.	65	1.05	Cloudy, o, g, d, p.
"	14th	146.8	6.3	.783	81.8	87.5	10.9	76.6	78.4	.927	76.9	85	W and S W	120	0.09	Partially cloudy, o, t, p.
"	15th	145.6	3.0	.639	83.8	89.4	14.0	75.4	80.2	.991	78.9	87	S W by W	112	0.32	Chiefly cloudy, o, t, lr, p.
"	16th	140.2	5.4	.630	83.9	88.4	9.5	78.9	80.1	.977	78.5	84	S W by S, S W by W, and S W.	71	0.07	Partially cloudy, o, g, p.
"	17th	145.9	2.3	.705	81.2	87.4	11.2	76.2	79.4	.991	78.6	92	W by N and Variable.	60	0.67	Chiefly cloudy, o, d, t, p.
"	18th	159.1	7.6	.713	84.4	90.1	10.9	79.2	80.8	1.004	79.3	85	W by N, E by S, and S by E.	57	0.01	Partially cloudy, d, p.

The mean pressure of the seven days	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Inches. 29.708
The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29.671
The total number of hours of bright sunshine	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Hours. 32.8
The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85.7
The mean temperature of the seven days	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	82.5
The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	83.4
The extreme variation of temperature	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.2
The maximum temperature	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90.1
The highest velocity of the wind in one hour	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Miles. 12
The mean relative humidity	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	87
The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
The total fall of rain from 12th to 18th September 1897	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Inches. 2.21
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.21
The total fall from 1st January to 18th September 1897	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47.89
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55.07

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph, and from observations made at 6h., 10h., 16h., and 22h.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard, Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beekley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

o, overcast; g, gloomy; d, drizzling rain; p, passing temporary showers; t, thunder; < lightning; lr, lightning reflection; Δ, dew.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA,
Calcutta, the 20th September 1897.

J. H. GILLILAND.

For Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India.

Results of the Barometrical and Thermometrical Observations taken at the Meteorological Office, Chowringhee, from 12th to 18th September 1897.

Month.	Date.	Pressure at 10 A.M. corrected and reduced to 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.					HYGROMETRY.			Rainfall, past 24 hours.	
			Daily mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Dry bulb at 10 A.M.	Wet bulb at 10 A.M.	Vapour tension at 10 A.M.	Dew point at 10 A.M.		Humidity at 10 A.M.
1897.		Inches.	°		°		°		Inches.	°	%	Inches.
September ...	12th	29.836	85.2	92.0	13.7	78.3	85.1	80.5	.981	78.7	81	0.02
" ...	13th	.842	78.4	83.2	9.7	78.5	77.2	78.4	.902	76.1	96	1.12
" ...	14th	.797	83.3	90.3	14.0	76.3	83.4	80.5	1.003	79.4	87	0.02
" ...	15th	.681	84.2	92.0	15.7	76.3	86.1	83.5	1.115	82.6	90	0.60
" ...	16th	.671	85.1	90.9	11.6	79.3	86.6	82.5	1.057	81.0	84	0.02
" ...	17th	.736	88.2	90.1	13.8	76.3	82.1	79.5	.975	78.4	89	1.15
" ...	18th	.776	86.4	93.0	13.2	79.8	88.4	83.4	1.078	81.6	80	0.04

The mean 10 A.M. pressure of the seven days ...	...	...	Inches.
			29.763
The mean temperature of the seven days ...	...	...	°
			83.7
The extreme variation of temperature ...	...	...	°
			19.5
The maximum temperature ...	...	...	°
			93.0
The mean 10 A.M. relative humidity of the seven days ...	...	...	%
			87
The total fall of rain from 12th to 18th September 1897 ...	...	...	Inches.
			2.97
The daily mean temperatures are the crude means of maximum and minimum temperatures.			

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, BENGAL,
The 20th September 1897.

C. LITTLE,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 18th September 1897, as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.

NATURE OF CARGO.	WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 18TH SEPTEMBER 1897.			WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 19TH SEPTEMBER 1896.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy ...	419	50,920	614	354	53,675	719
Jute ...	221	77,085	1,530	264	61,435	1,136
Firewood ...	40	20,760	303	117	71,525	1,086
Other articles ...	784	1,68,463	2,127	649	1,30,875	1,899
Total ...	1,464	3,17,317	4,574	1,384	3,17,560	4,840

Vital Statistics of the Districts of Bengal for the month of July 1897.

Divisions.	Districts.	BIRTHS.					DEATHS.										REMARKS.				
		Population under registration.	Number registered.				CHOLERA.		SMALL-POX.		FEVER.		DYSENTERY AND DIARRHŒA.		OTHER CAUSES.			TOTAL OF ALL CAUSES.		AVERAGE OF CORRESPONDING MONTH OF PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS.	
			Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of annum.	Number registered.		Ratio per 1,000 of annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of annum.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Burdwan	Burdwan	1,301,880	3,000	33.60	143	1.44	36	3.4	1,047	25.74	74	60	54	36	711	6.34	2,885	24.64	2,887	24.64	24.64
Birbhum	Birbhum	798,254	3,020	45.48	171	1.51	36	3.4	1,047	25.74	74	60	54	36	711	6.34	2,885	24.64	2,887	24.64	24.64
Bankura	Bankura	1,069,098	3,041	47.40	284	2.60	7	0.7	1,008	16.30	18	4.3	87	47	730	6.78	2,618	29.38	2,618	29.38	29.38
Hooghly, including Serampore.	Hooghly, including Serampore.	2,631,516	7,082	26.90	38	3.6	15	1.2	1,288	14.88	113	1.90	60	90	1,010	4.06	6,322	24.34	6,312	24.34	24.34
Howrah	Howrah	763,625	1,992	31.90	74	1.08	13	1.2	670	30.44	196	3.00	89	84	403	6.34	1,414	23.96	1,387	21.48	21.48
24-Parganas	24-Parganas	1,892,033	4,031	20.98	166	1.46	10	0.6	2,277	14.40	87	4.3	123	34	388	1.04	3,030	19.20	3,030	19.20	19.20
Calcutta	Calcutta	681,899	1,035	16.00	88	1.44	1	0.1	1,754	17.40	248	4.3	34	34	388	1.04	1,754	20.84	1,600	26.40	26.40
Nadia	Nadia	1,644,108	4,011	43.95	6	7.04	1	0.1	1,880	22.64	18	1.9	123	101	546	4.3	3,274	18.84	2,778	20.98	20.98
Murshidabad	Murshidabad	1,850,946	4,066	46.04	34	3.94	13	0.7	1,837	22.44	11	0.9	101	84	546	4.3	3,274	18.84	3,218	20.98	20.98
Jessore	Jessore	1,888,827	4,062	37.44	187	1.32	1	0.1	1,863	16.80	23	0.9	141	73	323	2.36	3,103	19.68	3,395	21.48	21.48
Khulna	Khulna	1,177,033	2,457	24.72	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,666	16.20	4	0.9	109	84	546	4.3	3,274	18.84	3,073	21.18	21.18
Raisbahi	Raisbahi	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,654	21.48	115	1.75	117	115	515	1.90	3,280	20.84	3,013	21.36	21.36
Dinajpur	Dinajpur	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,583	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Malda	Malda	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,483	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Bankura	Bankura	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,453	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Barisal	Barisal	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,449	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Darjeeling	Darjeeling	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,411	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Bangor	Bangor	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Bogra	Bogra	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Panna	Panna	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Deca	Deca	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Mymensingh	Mymensingh	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Backergunge	Backergunge	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Chittagong	Chittagong	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Chittagong	Chittagong	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Panna	Panna	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Shahbad	Shahbad	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Saran	Saran	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Champan	Champan	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Manikpur	Manikpur	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Darbhanga	Darbhanga	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Monohar	Monohar	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Blagahur	Blagahur	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Purnea	Purnea	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Malda	Malda	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Bonthal Parganas	Bonthal Parganas	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Cuttack	Cuttack	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Balacore	Balacore	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Puri	Puri	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Hasaribagh	Hasaribagh	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Lohardaga	Lohardaga	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Palaman	Palaman	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Manikpur	Manikpur	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Singbham	Singbham	1,457,460	3,036	20.84	174	1.44	1	0.1	1,381	20.84	106	1.90	119	119	61	0.96	3,281	20.84	3,050	21.36	21.36
Total	Total	71,068,617	186,200	31.44	12,331	3.34	1,001	1.18	113,587	19.44	4,008	7.2	4,708	7.2	36,459	4.44	171,842	26.22	171,842	26.22	26.22
Average of corresponding month of previous five years.		161,726	3.64	112,454	15.96	7.2	1,009	1.18	112,454	15.96	4,287	7.2	4,378	7.2	33,868	3.96	161,907	27.24	161,907	27.24	27.24
Difference + or -		.....	+ 23,564	+ 4,028	+ 2,120	+ 0.07	+ 13	+ 0.02	+ 3,120	+ 4.52	+ 310	+ 0.02	+ 400	+ 0.02	+ 2,601	+ 0.48	+ 6,035	+ 7.02	+ 6,035	+ 7.02	7.02

Vital Statistics of Towns in Bengal with a population of 20,000 and over during the month of July 1897.

Districts.	Towns.	Population under registra- tion.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS.										AVERAGE OF CORRESPONDING MONTH OF PRE- VIOUS FIVE YEARS.		REMARKS.				
			Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	CHOLERA.		SMALL-POX.		FEBRIL.		DYSENTERY AND DIARRHÆA.		INJURY.		OTHER CAUSES.			TOTAL OF ALL CAUSES.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.
					Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Bardhaman	1. Bardhaman	34,477	37	19.84	3	9.8	...	...	48	15.60	16	5.59	2	...	5	1.65	71	24.60	74	25.68	
Midnapore	2. Midnapore	32,351	76	25.98	10	3.60	...	...	60	22.20	8	9.84	...	...	31	11.59	109	40.44	104	38.64	
Hooghly	3. Hooghly and Chinsura	33,066	66	23.88	11	3.96	...	...	49	14.40	8	7.53	...	...	16	5.76	89	32.26	94	34.08	
Howrah	4. Howrah	35,933	87	28.99	...	...	1.58	...	63	21.00	21	6.99	...	...	28	9.24	116	39.60	118	38.64	
	5. Calcutta-Chittpur	116,606	26	26.40	14	1.44	...	...	155	25.84	51	5.16	...	...	62	8.40	313	32.04	311	31.90	
	6. Calcutta-Chittpur	31,493	47	27.88	...	...	...	...	15	6.64	1	...	...	...	7	...	23	9.84	33	14.40	
	7. Manikiala	32,865	33	19.00	...	...	...	...	16	5.26	2	...	...	...	...	...	32	7.92	36	13.08	
	8. Barnagore	24,378	66	35.64	...	...	...	...	35	19.66	5	...	...	...	...	...	67	33.40	63	31.60	
	9. South Suburban	68,643	113	27.12	...	...	...	...	104	17.84	7	...	...	...	...	...	143	24.60	103	17.52	
	10. Khorda, South Bar- nagore & Titnagar.	25,647	50	25.80	...	...	...	...	26	8.64	7	...	...	...	...	...	49	16.44	46	16.08	
	11. Nalhati	33,724	37	29.92	4	1.56	...	...	59	23.40	3	...	...	...	...	...	71	28.56	69	23.40	
	12. Navatganj or North Barnagore.	20,980	25	16.28	...	...	...	...	24	13.68	14	...	...	...	...	...	51	29.16	46	25.68	
Calcutta	13. Calcutta	631,569	1,035	19.00	88	3.44	...	...	754	13.96	243	4.32	...	...	...	...	1,754	30.84	1,500	26.40	
Nadia	14. Krishnagar	25,500	80	37.66	...	...	...	...	30	9.36	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	18.72	36	16.92	
Murshidabad	15. Santipur	30,457	89	36.04	...	...	...	...	53	19.48	...	...	...	...	...	...	41	16.08	59	23.16	
Rajshahi	16. Berhampore	33,516	40	26.32	...	...	...	...	55	27.96	...	...	...	...	...	...	151	28.48	54	17.98	
Pabna	17. Rampur Balia	31,407	40	26.32	...	...	...	...	59	27.96	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	23.60	41	22.92	
Dacca	18. Shajganj	25,327	41	29.64	...	...	...	...	43	19.60	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	23.60	27	13.92	
Uniting	19. Dacca	22,321	142	20.64	...	...	...	...	64	14.40	...	...	...	...	...	...	169	25.32	169	24.60	
	20. Chittagong	145,192	139	39.36	...	...	...	...	38	17.88	...	...	...	...	...	...	160	25.32	169	24.60	
	21. Patna City	47,723	140	32.16	...	...	...	...	255	14.72	...	...	...	...	...	...	185	42.24	185	42.24	
	22. Bihar	44,419	180	32.16	...	...	...	...	103	25.68	...	...	...	...	...	...	143	36.48	183	41.40	
	23. Dinapore	80,383	218	28.04	...	...	...	...	75	19.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	110	27.72	113	27.72	
	24. Gaya	46,905	120	30.00	...	...	...	...	100	27.92	...	...	...	...	...	...	143	39.60	143	39.60	
	25. Arrah	37,713	86	45.36	...	...	...	...	71	27.32	...	...	...	...	...	...	142	34.26	156	38.04	
	26. Chapra	27,340	111	37.28	...	...	...	...	79	37.96	...	...	...	...	...	...	142	34.26	156	38.04	
	27. Bettiah	22,780	73	37.96	...	...	...	...	63	21.04	...	...	...	...	...	...	142	34.26	156	38.04	
	28. Munshiganj	31,487	80	27.84	...	...	...	...	63	21.04	...	...	...	...	...	...	142	34.26	156	38.04	
	29. Darbhanga	73,541	189	37.66	...	...	...	...	63	21.04	...	...	...	...	...	...	142	34.26	156	38.04	
	30. Monghyr	67,077	179	37.66	...	...	...	...	137	21.12	...	...	...	...	...	...	142	34.26	156	38.04	
	31. Bhagalpur	69,106	208	45.48	...	...	...	...	137	21.12	...	...	...	...	...	...	142	34.26	156	38.04	
	32. Cuttack	47,186	139	35.92	...	...	...	...	16	9.36	...	...	...	...	...	...	142	34.26	156	38.04	
	33. Balasore	20,775	87	32.88	...	...	...	...	16	9.36	...	...	...	...	...	...	142	34.26	156	38.04	
	34. Puri	28,794	80	33.24	...	...	...	...	16	9.36	...	...	...	...	...	...	142	34.26	156	38.04	
	35. Ranchi	20,306	64	37.80	...	...	...	...	16	9.36	...	...	...	...	...	...	142	34.26	156	38.04	
	Total of all towns with a population of 20,000 and over.	2,523,845	4,971	25.92	387	4.44	...	...	3,255	16.92	794	4.08	...	...	...	...	6,849	35.76	...	...
	Average of the corre- sponding months of pre- vious five years.	...	3,744	19.56	...	4.22	...	...	4,715	14.16	...	3.60	...	...	...	...	5,949	31.68	...	...
	Difference + or -	...	+1,237	+6.86	...	+ .78	...	...	+60	+9.76	...	+ .46	...	...	...	...	+900	+5.68	...	...

H. J. DYSON, Surgeon-Major, F.R.C.S.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal.OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR BENGAL,
The 18th September 1897.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 11th September 1897 on 1,702.46 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	(b) 322,160	Rs. 3,33,008 15 0	Mds. 37,20,351 0	Rs. 6,90,648 4 0	Rs. 20,938 0 0	Rs. 10,34,585 1 0	94,798	146,648	241,446
Or per mile of railway ...	...	189 11 8	...	405 10 10	12 4 9	607 11 8	...	...	...
For previous 9½ weeks of half-year ...	* 3,644,090	* 25,73,071 3 0	* 13,40,91,200 10	* 166,32,169 0 0	* 12,10,673 0 0	* 94,15,833 2 0	(a) 856,409½	(a) 1,333,357½	2,189,767½
Total for 10½ weeks ...	2,966,259	28,06,080 0 0	3,78,11,551 10	73,22,787 4 0	2,31,609 0 0	1,04,50,446 4 0	951,201½	1,470,999½	2,422,201½
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	275,171½	2,67,659 1 8	30,57,003 30	5,73,945 9 9	24,074 11 9	8,64,988 6 9	79,767	121,047	200,814
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	157 5 6	...	336 15 10	14 2 5	508 7 9	...	...	...
Total for corresponding 10½ weeks of previous year ...	3,044,514½	29,34,805 12 11	3,12,19,806 30	59,94,878 8 0	1,91,317 8 1	88,11,091 8 0	889,188	1,199,830	2,089,018

(a) Miles 7,354 and 4,865½ added to Coaching and Merchandise respectively on account of difference between the Approximate and Audited figures to week ended 21st August 1897.

(b) The increase is due to Pilgrims traffic.
* Added number of passengers 15 and Rs. 8,771 }
† Ditto Mds. 1,47,638 and .. 4,894 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the week ended 31st July 1897.
‡ Deducted .. 665 }

TAKKESUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 11th September 1897 on 22.23 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	19,098	Rs. 4,684 0 0	Mds. 9,017 30	Rs. 418 15 0	Rs. 5 0 0	Rs. 5,101 15 0	1,184	68	1,252
Or per mile of railway ...	...	210 11 4	...	18 9 2	0 3 7	239 8 1	...	...	...
For previous 9½ weeks of half-year ...	* 183,943	* 42,635 12 0	* 774,901 30	* 13,202 5 0	* 83 0 0	* 46,131 1 0	10,569	980	11,549
Total for 10½ weeks ...	203,041	47,519 12 0	83,919 30	3,615 4 0	88 0 0	51,223 0 0	11,643	1,048	12,691
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	20,793½	4,594 5 3	10,111 30	446 5 0	5 9 9	5,046 4 0	1,188	60	1,248
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	206 10 9	...	20 1 3	0 4 0	227 0 0	...	...	...
Total for corresponding 10½ weeks of previous year ...	215,806½	50,173 6 7	75,180 30	3,373 8 0	100 1 9	53,646 0 4	12,106	806	12,912

* Added number of passengers 534 and Rs. 133 }
† Ditto Mds. 770 and .. 16 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the week ended 31st July 1897.

DELHI-UMBALLA-KALKA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 11th September 1897 on 160.47 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	16,001	Rs. 19,263 8 0	Mds. 61,701 0	Rs. 16,148 0 0	Rs. 73 0 0	Rs. 25,463 8 0	9,983	6,236	16,219
Or per mile of railway ...	...	120 0 8	...	100 10 1	0 7 2	231 1 11	...	...	...
For previous 9½ weeks of half-year ...	* 164,673	* 1,03,916 7 0	* 13,07,340 10	* 123,817 10 0	* 1038 0 0	* 2,00,974 1 0	72,831	34,945	107,776
Total for 10½ weeks ...	180,674	1,23,181 15 0	13,69,041 10	1,25,965 10 0	710 0 0	2,26,687 9 0	81,814	41,174	122,988
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	18,093	14,065 0 3	1,02,863 30	11,447 6 0	82 15 8	25,555 5 6	6,592	3,579	10,171
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	87 9 5	...	71 5 3	0 5 2	159 4 1	...	...	...
Total for corresponding 10½ weeks of previous year ...	186,540	1,40,303 5 2	13,32,446 10	77,325 11 0	544 2 1	2,24,173 2 4	70,463	31,293	101,756

(a) The increase is due to running of extra troop trains.
* Deducted number of passengers 348 and added Rs. 946 }
† Ditto Mds. 7,848 and .. 1,051 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the week ended 31st July 1897.
‡ Added .. 20 }

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

(INCLUDING N. B., DACCA, K.-D., AND ASSAM-BREHAR SECTIONS.)

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 11th September 1897 on 817 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (including ferry).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	169,570	76,800 0 0	11,72,000 0	2,75,420 0 0	8,810 0 0	3,61,030 0 0	33,200	46,201	79,401
Or per mile of railway ...	208	94 0 0	1,436 0	337 0 0	1 0 0	432 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 9 weeks of half-year ...	1,528,020	7,16,080 0 0	69,18,000 0	14,54,710 0 0	1,02,570 0 0	22,80,360 0 0	298,512	306,460	604,772
Total for 10 weeks ...	1,698,190	7,92,880 0 0	80,87,560 0	17,30,130 0 0	1,12,380 0 0	23,41,390 0 0	330,512	352,661	683,173
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding period of previous year ...	197,350	79,840 0 0	12,31,300 0	2,90,309 0 0	12,039 0 0	3,92,197 0 0	32,400	49,601	82,001
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	242	98 0 0	1,636 0	366 0 0	1 0 0	467 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	2,061,836	8,52,223 0 0	97,69,569 0	20,36,060 0 0	1,43,692 0 0	30,32,675 0 0	332,339	392,126	724,465

* Excluding steamer earnings.

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 11th September 1897 on 86 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	19,540	6,810 0 0	53,050 0	4,090 0 0	80 0 0	10,470 0 0	2,116	1,716	3,832
Or per mile of railway ...	227	73 0 0	617 0	48 0 0	1 0 0	123 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 9 weeks of half-year ...	194,550	56,450 0 0	242,930 0	15,010 0 0	1,540 0 0	78,000 0 0	24,009	10,567	35,200
Total for 10 weeks ...	214,090	62,760 0 0	296,980 0	19,090 0 0	1,620 0 0	88,470 0 0	26,815	12,283	39,098
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	20,793	6,631 0 0	46,485 0	3,926 0 0	447 0 0	11,004 0 0	2,508	1,630	4,038
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	242	77 0 0	541 0	46 0 0	5 0 0	128 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	222,684	71,104 0 0	228,702 0	18,686 0 0	2,344 0 0	92,338 0 0	24,485	11,677	36,162

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 11th September 1897 on 125 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	26,786	10,247 0 0	1,74,419 0	19,271 0 0	164 0 0	29,692 0 0	3,607	5,242	8,849
Or per mile of railway ...	214	82 0 0	1,396 0	164 0 0	1 0 0	237 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 9 weeks of half-year ...	263,067	1,03,258 0 0	10,20,202 0	80,175 0 0	2,491 0 0	1,85,924 0 0	40,500	37,965	78,565
Total for 10 weeks ...	289,853	1,13,505 0 0	11,94,621 0	99,446 0 0	2,655 0 0	2,15,006 0 0	44,907	43,107	87,614
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	31,446	9,661 0 0	1,44,161 0	14,393 0 0	111 0 0	23,965 0 0	3,794	5,350	9,144
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	251	77 0 0	1,153 0	115 0 0	1 0 0	187 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	341,607	1,01,859 0 0	2,04,900 0	85,702 0 0	1,657 0 0	1,89,096 0 0	39,093	34,700	74,452

BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

(INCLUDES TIRHUT STATE RAILWAY.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ending 4th September 1897 on 815 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week on 815 miles open ...	94,020	Rs. 33,460	Mds. 3,10,040	Rs. 28,780	Rs. 12,530	(a) 54,770	18,603	(b) 17,374	35,977
Or per mile of railway ...	115.38	41.06	380.42	47.58	15.37	104.91	...	...	...
For previous 8 1/2 weeks of half-year ...	870,690	3,18,660	36,56,630	4,46,280	1,21,820	8,86,760	157,607	164,437	322,044
Total for 9 1/2 weeks ...	964,900	3,52,120	39,66,670	4,85,060	1,34,350	9,71,550	176,300	181,811	358,111
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 766 miles open	87,841	32,801	3,33,163	26,865	6,442	65,558	14,973	(c) 13,592	28,565
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	116.19	42.68	395.42	35.23	8.53	86.73	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	892,820	3,27,892	34,30,343	4,31,930	98,037	8,49,868	180,620	166,630	347,250

(a) Increase is due to brisker traffic.

(b) Includes 3,396 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

(c) " " " " " "

ASSAM-BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 4th September 1897 on 238 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	12,117	Rs. 6,025 0 0	Mds. 1,77,324 0	Rs. 7,431 0 0	Rs. 249 0 0	Rs. 13,705 0 0	2,350	4,011	6,370
Or per mile of railway ...	50.91	25.32	745.06	31.23	1.05	57.59	9.91	16.85	26.76
For previous 8 weeks of half-year (a) ...	100,175	49,294 0 0	8,60,076 0	37,658 0 0	3,482 0 0	90,420 0 0	16,601	23,708	40,309
Total for 9 weeks ...	112,292	55,319 0 0	11,57,400 0	45,084 0 0	3,731 0 0	1,04,156 0 0	19,650	27,719	47,369
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	8,978	4,802 0 0	86,866 0	2,975 0 0	200 0 0	7,577 0 0	1,453	2,356	3,809
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	55.47	20.32	543.18	12.63	1.26 0 0	46.40	9.14	14.88	24.02
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	97,599	48,278 0 0	10,36,768 0	33,627 0 0	1,961 0 0	82,866 0 0	12,542	22,540	40,110

(a) Includes audited figures up to week ending 26th July 1897.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of Gross Receipts of the Assam-Bengal Railway.

RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 4TH SEPTEMBER 1897.			RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 5TH SEPTEMBER 1896.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL TO 4TH SEPTEMBER 1897.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL TO 5TH SEPTEMBER 1896.			Total increase in 1897.	Total decrease in 1897.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.		
238	Rs. 13,705	57.59	180	Rs. 7,577	42.40	238	Rs. 3,45,530	.....	150	Rs. 2,86,061	.....	Rs. 1,09,469	.....

DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate earnings for the week ending 11th September 1897 ...	Rs. 11,952 0 0
Corresponding period of 1896 ...	Rs. 13,264 14 9
Decrease ...	Rs. 1,312 14 9
Receipts per mile for the week ending 11th September 1897 ...	Rs. 284 5 8
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1896 ...	Rs. 260 1 7
Decrease ...	Rs. 25 11 11
Receipts from 1st July to 11th September 1897 ...	Rs. 1,48,500 0 0
Corresponding period of 1896 ...	Rs. 1,48,718 0 0
Increase ...	Rs. 1,872 0 0



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1897.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT—MUNICIPAL.

Darjeeling, the 23rd September 1897.

RESOLUTION—No. 817T.—M.

READ—

The reports from Commissioners of Divisions on the working of the Puri Lodging-house Act IV (B.C.) of 1871, as amended by Acts II (B.C.) of 1879 and I (B.C.) of 1884, during the year 1896-97, in the various places to which it has been extended.

Read also—

The Resolution reviewing the Commissioners' reports on the working of the Act during 1895-96.

Extension of the Act.—The Puri Lodging-house Act IV (B.C.) of 1871, as

In the Burdwan Division—

1. Garhbeta.
2. Dantan.
3. Ulubaria.
4. Gowankhall.

In the Presidency Division—

5. Nadia.

In the Chittagong Division—

6. Sitakund.

In the Patna Division—

7. Gaya.

In the Bhagalpur Division—

8. Deoghar.

In the Orissa Division—

9. *Chattis* on the Jagannath road in the district of Cuttack.
10. Chaudbali.
11. *Chattis* on the Jagannath road in the district of Balasore.
12. Puri town.
13. *Chattis* on the Jagannath road in the district of Puri.
14. Jajpur.

amended by Acts II (B.C.) 1879 and I (B.C.) of 1884, was in force in the towns and areas named in the margin during the year. The funds of the *chattis* along the Jagannath road in the district of Puri have remained amalgamated with those of the town of Puri since 1895-96, but the sanction of Government

those of the town of Puri since 1895-96, but the sanction of Government

to this amalgamation has not yet been asked for, although this omission was noticed in the resolution reviewing the reports for that year. The circumstances which rendered the amalgamation necessary should now be explained and the sanction of Government obtained.

2. *Licensed Lodging-houses.*—There was a decrease in the number of lodging-houses from 2,066 in 1895-96 to 1,565. The decrease appears to have been general, but was most marked at Sitakund, where the number fell from 452 to 18, only 2,029 pilgrims having visited the place against 30,000 in the previous year, owing, it is said, to the prevalent scarcity and to the fact that the year was accounted an inauspicious one from the Hindu point of view. There was an increase, on the other hand, from 175 to 190, at Nadia, from 34 to 46 at Jajpur, and from 360 to 367 at Puri and the *chattis* along the Jagannath road. Altogether the number of lodgers accommodated fell from 57,207 to 43,105, the chief causes being the two mentioned above as having operated in the case of Sitakund. The Magistrate of Cuttack notes that with the progress of the East Coast Railway, the income from lodging-houses in his district is steadily falling off. It is reported that effect has been given to the suggestions made in the resolution for 1894-95 that no lodging-house should be licensed unless fees are paid for the full number of pilgrims that can be accommodated.

3. *Income.*—The total income of the year was Rs. 34,244 against Rs. 39,969 in 1895-96, the opening balance being Rs. 34,577 and the closing balance Rs. 27,976. There was a general decrease under most of the heads of receipt. An increase occurred under the head "Miscellaneous," but this is chiefly due to the transfer to this head of Rs. 1,799, the final closing balance of the funds of the *chattis* along the Jagannath road in the district of Puri. There is also an increase in the receipts under "Other fees" which has not been explained.

4. *Expenditure.*—The total expenditure was Rs. 40,845 against Rs. 33,546 in 1895-96. The increase is chiefly noticeable in the amounts spent on conservancy, construction, and miscellaneous charges which were Rs. 12,818, Rs. 4,196 and Rs. 1,072, respectively, against Rs. 5,900, Rs. 2,198 and Rs. 595 in the preceding year. The Lieutenant-Governor observes with pleasure the useful manner in which the fund appears to have been expended during the year at Gaya, where Rs. 9,625, as against 2,489 in the previous years were spent on conservancy, Rs. 1,500 were contributed towards the support of the local pilgrim hospital, and Rs. 1,150 spent on a cholera hospital which is entirely supported from the fund. The total closing balance of all the fund has been reduced from Rs. 33,376 to Rs. 27,976, which is still an unnecessarily large amount, and which should be further decreased during the current year by judicious outlay on improvements. The largest individual balance, viz., Rs. 7,032, stands to the credit of the Sitakund fund.

5. *Prosecutions.*—The number of prosecutions for offences under the Act and the bye-laws decreased from 288 in 1895-96 to 138, and the number of persons accused from 278 to 139. The amount of fines realised also shows a decline from Rs. 2,539 to Rs. 1,086.

6. *Public health.*—Cholera broke out in the *chattis* along the Jagannath road in Cuttack, but not in an epidemic or severe form, the number of cases being six with one death, as against 22 with two deaths in the previous year. In Nadia cholera broke out during the Gaur *mêla* festival, when 11 persons were admitted into the cholera shed, of whom 8 died and 3 recovered. At Gaya the health statistics show a remarkable improvement over the figures for the preceding year, there having been only 37 cholera cases in the cholera hospital with 26 deaths, as against 142 cases with 108 deaths in 1895-96, and altogether only 87 deaths among pilgrims from all causes, against an average of 234 in the preceding four years. In Ulubaria the number of deaths among pilgrims from cholera was 10, against 5 in 1895-96. Since the close of the year, Government has had under consideration the question of preventing overcrowding among pilgrims, and has laid down a minimum limit of space to be allowed to each pilgrim in the lodging-houses at Gaya and Gewankhali.

7. *Water-supply.*—All the wells along the Jagannath road in the district of Cuttack were cleansed, repaired and disinfected; and it is satisfactory to

observe that the two unwholesome tanks referred to in paragraph 6 of last year's Resolution, belonging to Rajas Badyanath Pandit and Baikuntha Nath De, were completely dewatered and thoroughly repaired during the year. In the town of Puri and the *chattis* along the Jagannath road in that district, eighty masonry wells were cleansed and disinfected and four new wells were sunk, five public wells in the town were fitted with pumps, and the Markunda tank, which is much used for bathing purposes, was dewatered and a great quantity of silt removed. In Dantun one corrugated iron well was sunk, and a masonry well is reported to be under construction. Nothing has yet been done with regard to the proposed improvements in the water-supply at Sitakund: the proceedings regarding the acquisition of certain tanks have not terminated, nor has the proposal to convey water from Chandranath Hill by iron pipes been finally decided. The Lieutenant-Governor hopes that early steps will be taken to settle the question and take the work in hand. This will reduce the large balance of the Sitakund fund referred to above.

8. On the whole, the Act appears to have been worked satisfactorily during the year in most of the places in which it was in force; and the local officers generally have taken an interest in its administration. The report submitted by the Magistrate of Balasore, however, is incomplete in several respects, and very little would seem to have been effected in that district in respect of sanitation, water-supply, or works of improvement. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets to see it reported that in Nadia a want of co-operation existed between the Municipal Commissioners and the Special Committee appointed under the Act, and His Honour trusts that a spirit of cordiality will quickly be established.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be submitted to the Government of India in the Home Department, and that copies be forwarded to the Commissioners of the Burdwan, Presidency, Chittagong, Patna, Bhagalpur and Orissa Divisions, for information.

Ordered also that a copy of the Resolution be communicated to the Sanitary Commissioner and to the Sanitary Board, and that the Resolution be published in the *Calcutta Gazette* for general information.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

C. E. A. W. OLDHAM,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Statement showing the working of the Lodging-house Act during the year 1896-97.

[illegible]

**RESOLUTION REVIEWING THE ANNUAL RETURNS ON THE
WORKING OF THE CHARITABLE DISPENSARIES IN BENGAL
DURING THE YEAR 1896.**

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.—MEDICAL.

Darjeeling, the 20th September 1897.

RESOLUTION No. 782T.—M.

READ—

The Annual Returns on the working of the Charitable Dispensaries in Bengal for the year 1896.

Read also—

The Triennial Report on the working of the Charitable Dispensaries in Bengal for the three years 1893, 1894 and 1895, and the Resolution recorded thereon by Government.

The returns which were due on the 1st May 1896 were not submitted till the 18th August. No explanation of this great delay has been offered, and the Lieutenant-Governor hopes that the returns will be submitted with greater punctuality in future.

2. The number of dispensaries increased during the year from 426 to 455. Thirty-one new dispensaries were opened, of which 25 were in Class II, 2 in Class IIIA, and 4 in Class IIIB. Of these no less than seven were established in the district of Backergunge. One dispensary was closed during the year, and another, the female hospital at Dinajpur, ceased to be classed as a separate institution, owing to its statistics being included in the returns of the Sadar Dispensary. The 455 dispensaries remaining open at the close of the year are classified as follows:—

Class I	...	...	...	...	30
" II	...	...	...	...	240
" IIIA	...	...	...	...	93
" IIIB	...	...	...	...	92

3. Since the close of the year, however, 23 dispensaries have been transferred from Class IIIB to Class II, thus increasing the number of Class II dispensaries to 263, and reducing that of Class IIIB dispensaries to 69. These statistics show that in Bengal there is a dispensary for every 155,308 persons. The following table shows the distribution of these dispensaries in each Division according to population:—

DIVISION.				Population.	Number of dispensaries.	Number of population to each dispensary.
1				2	3	4
Burdwan	..	...	...	7,688,818	53	145,072
Presidency	...	...	...	7,853,566	65	120,824
Rajshahi	...	...	...	8,019,187	68	117,929
Dacca	...	...	...	9,844,127	79	124,609
Chittagong	...	...	...	4,190,081	40	104,752
Patna	...	...	...	15,811,014	59	267,983
Bhagalpur	...	...	...	8,582,490	39	220,063
Orissa	...	...	...	4,047,352	33	122,647
Chota Nagpur	...	...	...	4,628,792	19	243,620
Total				70,665,427	455	155,308

4. The above statement shows that the malarious tracts of Lower Bengal are better provided with medical relief than the more healthy districts of Bihar and Chota Nagpur. Most districts in Bengal Proper are now fairly well supplied with dispensaries situated in convenient centres, but several districts in Bihar and in the Chota Nagpur Division are still inadequately provided. For instance, in Purnea district, which has not the reputation of being healthy with an area of 4,993 square miles and a population of 1,944,658, there are only five dispensaries; while in Lohardaga, with an area of 7,140 square miles and a population of 1,128,885, there are only two dispensaries. The following table shows the chief statistics in respect of area, population, and comparative number of dispensaries and patients treated in Bengal, as compared with the corresponding figures for other Provinces for the year 1895:—

PROVINCES.	Number of dispensaries.	Area of the Province in square miles.	Square miles per dispensary.	Population of the Province.	Population per dispensary.	Number of patients treated.	Number of patients per dispensary.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bengal	455*	151,543	333	70,665,427	155,308*	2,684,610*	5,800*
Bombay	317	125,144	394	19,901,123	59,825	2,382,089	7,514
Madras	496	141,189	283	35,639,440	71,547	3,539,354	7,769
Central Provinces	86	71,583	832	9,501,401	110,481	1,301,590	14,090
Punjab	257	110,667	431	20,460,913	81,171	3,329,617	12,687
North-Western Provinces	315	107,507	341	46,906,085	148,905	4,017,195	12,753
Burma	93	171,439	1,843	7,606,060	81,799	632,987	6,806

* Note.—The figures in columns 2, 6, 7 and 8 in the case of Bengal are those for 1896; in the case of the other Provinces the figures are those shown in the returns for 1895.

The causes which combine to make the average number of patients treated per dispensary in Bengal so much smaller than the corresponding number in other Provinces were fully explained in last year's Resolution. There is still, however, much room for improvement in Bengal. Many defects which detract from the popularity of the dispensaries, or which deter the people from having recourse to them rather than to private practitioners and village quacks, have yet to be removed. The number of dispensaries, however, is steadily increasing every year, and it is satisfactory to note that 62 institutions have been added by local bodies during the last three years.

5. *Medical Officers in charge of Dispensaries.*—Of the 455 dispensaries included in the report, 235 were in charge of Government medical officers and 220 under men unconnected with Government, against 229 and 198, respectively, in the previous year. Orders were passed during the year with a view to obviate the difficulty frequently experienced by local bodies in providing for the enhanced pay earned by a Government Officer on promotion to a higher grade. Local bodies are now required to contribute a fixed sum calculated on the average pay of the medical officer of the class employed in the dispensary, and thus it will no longer be necessary to transfer an officer on his attaining a higher grade. In the last triennial report, the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals complained that the existing system of allowing the supporters of private and quasi-private dispensaries to appoint any medical man they thought fit to take charge of the dispensary led in many cases to the appointment of incompetent men. Enquiry showed that the existing arrangements frequently led to grave abuse, and Rule 10 of the Dispensary Manual was consequently revised so as to subject all such appointments to the approval of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals.

6. *Inspections.*—The number of dispensaries inspected by Civil Surgeons rose from 343 to 374, and the number visited four times and over, as required by Rule 29 of the Dispensary Manual, from 141 to 153. The percentage of dispensaries visited less than four times was, however, the same as in the previous year, and the Lieutenant-Governor desires that the attention of Civil Surgeons and Civil Medical Officers should again be drawn to the importance of inspecting outlying dispensaries at least once a quarter. The Lieutenant-Governor notices with pleasure that several Civil Surgeons did their duty fully in this respect, but His Honour regrets to observe that in some districts inspection work has been considerably neglected, Bhagalpur and Champaran are conspicuous examples. The Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals visited 17 dispensaries during the year against 28 in 1895.

7. The following table shows the total number of in-door and out-door patients treated during the last three years, and the ratio per cent. of this number to the population of the area concerned :—

YEAR.	PATIENTS.			Population.	Ratio per cent. of total treated to population.
	In-door.	Out-door.	Total treated.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
1894	43,824	2,241,626	2,285,450	70,665,427	3.23
1895	45,243	2,434,536	2,479,779		3.51
1896	47,109	2,637,501	2,684,610		3.79

The total number of patients treated during the year was 2,684,610, or 3.79 per cent. of the population, against 2,479,779, or 3.51 per cent. in 1895, thus showing an increase of 204,831. The daily average attendance also rose from 19,248 in 1895 to 20,276 in 1896. Comparing only those institutions which were in existence during both years, eight dispensaries show an increase of more than 3,000 patients, which is attributed in most cases to the unhealthiness of the year and the growing popularity of the dispensary. On the other hand, in sixteen dispensaries there was a falling off in attendance of more than 2,000, a decrease which is generally ascribed to the increased healthiness of the particular localities, and in some instances to frequent changes among medical officers in charge. Towards the close of the year, the Inspector-General issued a circular, addressed to all Civil Surgeons, instructing them to visit daily all dispensaries and hospitals at the Sadar station at a fixed hour to be notified throughout the district, and to prescribe for and treat the more important cases themselves. These orders will, it is expected, conduce towards the popularity of these institutions. Dr. Newman observes that the reports of medical officers for the past year show that increased interest has been taken in dispensary management, and that managing committees have frequently endeavoured to carry out suggestions made by Civil Surgeons and other inspecting officers. The Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to hear that in many cases new beds and bedding and surgical apparatus have been provided, and that some serious

Towns.
Bettiah.
Ranaghat.
Kamarhatti (Baranagore).
Krishnagar.
Suri.
Malda.

defects pointed out by Dr. Ross have been remedied. In the six towns noted in the margin, the explanation given for a large falling off in the number of patients treated in the various dispensaries is the healthiness of the locality. As, however, the death-rate, as shown in the Sanitary Report for 1896, was in every instance higher than in the preceding year, this explanation cannot be accepted as satisfactory.

8. *In-door patients.*—The steady increase in the number of in-door patients noticed in last year's Resolution has continued during the past year, the figures for the last three years being 43,824, 45,243 and 47,109. The average daily number of patients rose from 1,804 to 1,898, but it is still far below the number of beds provided. It is satisfactory to observe that notwithstanding the increase in the number of patients, the death-rate fell from 12.3 to 11.64. The pilgrim centres of Gaya and Deoghur show a slight increase in the number of deaths, while Puri shows a decrease.

9. *Out-door patients.*—The number of out-door patients rose from 2,434,536 in 1895 to 2,637,501 in 1896, and the daily average attendance increased from 17,443 to 18,378. These figures still falls short of the number treated in 1895 in the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab, but the steady and continuous increase each year in the number of patients gives reason to hope that the Bengal dispensaries may yet attain the standard of popularity and efficiency of the more successful institutions in other Provinces.

10. *Diseases treated.*—Of the principal diseases treated in the dispensaries, malarial fever heads the list with 506,757 cases, a falling off of 18,543 from the

numbers treated in the previous year. The highest figure (103,559) is returned by the Presidency Division; next in order come the Rajshahi, Burdwan and Dacca Divisions with 85,003, 76,268 and 74,097 cases, respectively, and Chota Nagpur last with 8,715. In all the Divisions, except Rajshahi, Dacca and Chittagong there was a reduction in the number of cases as compared with the previous year. Next to malarial fever, dysentery shows the largest number of cases, viz. 64,641 against 59,757 in the previous year. Cholera cases rose from 11,497 to 14,388, the increase occurred chiefly in the Patna Division, in some of the districts of which the disease appeared in epidemic form. Influenza also was unusually prevalent, and is said to be responsible to great extent for the increase in diseases of the respiratory organs. The number of small-pox cases rose from 164 to 185.

11. *Surgical operations.*—The division of surgical operations into major and minor has for the first time been replaced by the classification under "principal" and "secondary," the number of patients operated on being also indicated. During the year there were 122,187 principal and 1,880 secondary operations performed, against a total 119,776 for both major and minor operations in 1895. The number of persons operated on is the same as the number of principal operations: of these, 115,291 were cured, 5,207 were relieved, and 224 died. The more important operations numbered 3,262, of which 2,567 were extractions of the lens. The following officers performed more than 100 operations for cataract:—

Surgeon-Major T. R. Macdonald (Chapra)	...	...	183
Assistant Surgeon Nitto Gopal Mitter (Arrah)	...	...	125
Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel R. Macrae	...	...	118
Ditto ditto A. Tomes	...	...	117
Assistant Surgeon Bepin Behari Gupta (Dumraon)	...	...	103
Ditto Ram Kali Gupta (Bankipore)	...	...	102

The number of cases of lithotomy fell from 181 to 160, and of litholopaxy from 79 to 69. Cases of ovariectomy rose from 4 to 15, 14 of which, or 93.33 per cent., were successful, a result very creditable to the operators, who are named below:—

Surgeon-Captain E. H. Brown (Lady Dufferin Hospital, Darbhanga)	...	...	7
Surgeon-Major T. R. Macdonald (Chapra)	...	...	3
Assistant Surgeon Nobin Chunder Dutt (Lady Dufferin Hospital, Darbhanga)	...	...	3
Surgeon-Major E. S. Peek (Muzaffarpur)	...	...	1
Surgeon-Captain C. R. M. Green (Bankura)	...	...	1

12. *Sex and class of patients.*—The number of males treated shows an increase of 149,747, while the number of female patients rose from 398,994 to 423,238. The steady rise in the number of females treated during the past few years is very satisfactory, and the Inspector-General says that their number will doubtless further increase when proper separate accommodation is provided for their treatment. The number of children admitted also increased from 626,999 to 657,839. The daily average attendance of women and children as in-door patients shows a slight decrease, while that of men rose from 56.71 to 57.75. There was an increase of 109,585 in the number of Muhammadans treated, and of 92,035 in the number of Hindus.

13. *Income and expenditure.*—The following table compares the income and expenditure of the dispensaries for the past two years:—

Income.		1896.			1895.		
		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Cash balance on 1st January	...	28,154	5	7	25,497	3	10
From Government—							
As salaries	{ Medical Officers	46,619	2	4	45,810	9	4
	{ Inferior dispensary establishment						
	(including menial servants)	6,045	8	10	6,316	9	9
As registers and forms	...	4,890	6	4	4,855	0	7
„ European medicines	...	1,167	5	5	1,850	7	8
For diet, including police cases	...	4,715	3	9	4,556	9	9
Sale of medicines supplied by Government	...	7,748	14	1	7,715	10	1
Special allowances given by Government	...						
Total	...	71,187	8	9	70,904	15	3

	1895.			1896.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
From Local or other funds—						
Local funds	1,80,619	2	7	2,24,444	2	5
Municipal funds	1,89,153	7	6	2,04,291	12	7
Interest on investments	47,036	5	5	39,484	13	10
Sale of securities or withdrawal of deposits	24,106	1	3	26,833	12	6
Subscriptions ... { From Europeans	21,202	6	3	21,578	5	3
" natives	2,02,786	11	4	2,30,599	6	4
For diet (by paying patients, &c.)	1,558	4	4	1,930	9	7
From sale of medicines not supplied by Government	421	14	3	683	2	3
Miscellaneous receipts	16,023	12	1	8,971	12	6
Total	7,77,249	15	4	8,55,320	0	2
EXPENDITURE.						
Paid by Government as salaries—						
Medical Officers	47,069	2	4	46,423	9	4
Nursing establishment	2,888	8	2	3,292	2	8
Compounders, dressers, &c.	3,217	0	8	3,204	11	1
Menial servants						
Paid from local sources as salaries—						
Medical Officers	2,26,491	8	7	2,44,262	3	11
Nursing establishment	1,685	3	6	5,543	15	8
Compounders, dressers, &c.	55,284	5	2	54,757	3	10
Menial servants	54,498	13	9	68,623	0	8
On bazar medicines	19,212	12	7	19,842	6	9
" European "	1,13,703	2	10	1,15,446	14	1
" diet	68,818	3	2	78,222	8	6
" miscellaneous charges (including registers supplied by Government)	56,543	15	4	60,025	5	6
" buildings and repairs	71,217	15	7	97,905	11	2
Invested during the year	30,311	1	0	41,818	4	1
Total Expenditure	7,50,911	12	8	8,29,372	11	2
Cash balance on 31st December	26,338	2	8	25,947	5	0

Including opening balance of Rs. 25,497, the total income of the dispensaries amounted to Rs. 8,55,320 against Rs. 7,77,249 in 1895, when the opening balance was Rs. 23,154. The net increase was therefore Rs. 75,728, which is accounted for chiefly by increased contributions from municipal and other local bodies under which head there is an advance from Rs. 3,69,772 to Rs. 4,28,735. Subscriptions from Europeans and Natives amounted to Rs. 2,52,277, or 29.49 per. cent. of the total income, against Rs. 2,23,989, or 28.82 per cent. in 1895. Government contributed Rs. 282 less than in the preceding year. The amount received as interest on investment fell by Rs. 7,551, but the decrease is nominal, since in 1895 interest for 18 months was drawn, owing to the delay in the conversion of the 4 per cent. Government securities, and in 1896 interest for 12 months only was received. Receipts from paying patients increased from Rs. 1,558 in 1895 to Rs. 1,930.

14. *Expenditure.*—Deducting the amount invested, the total expenditure rose from Rs. 7,20,600 to Rs. 7,87,554, owing chiefly to the increase in the number of dispensaries and of patients treated. The chief item of increase was establishment, due to the opening of new dispensaries in 1895 and in the past year, but the building charges also rose by Rs. 26,687, and the cost of Europe medicines by Rs. 1,743. The total cost of diet rose from Rs. 68,818 to Rs. 78,222, and the average cost of the daily diet of a patient from 1 anna 10 pies to 2 annas, owing, it is said, to the rise in the price of food-grains. It is satisfactory to observe that after meeting all these increased charges a sum of Rs. 41,818 was invested during the year against Rs. 30,311 in 1895, and the year closed with a cash balance of Rs. 25,947.

15. The office of Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals was held by Surgeon-Colonel J. C. Ross during the year, with the exception of the period from the 28th January to the 8th May, when Surgeon-Colonel Hutcheson officiated for him. The Lieutenant-Governor's thanks are due to Dr. Ross for the active interest taken by him, in spite of ill-health which has since compelled him to retire in the improvement of dispensary administration in this Province.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

C. E. A. W. OLDHAM,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

**RESOLUTION ON THE ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE
STATIONERY DEPARTMENT FOR 1896-97.**

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT—MISCELLANEOUS.

Calcutta, the 23rd September 1897.

RESOLUTION—No. 5156Mis.

READ—

Letter No. 604B., dated the 31st July 1897, from the Board of Revenue, submitting the Report on the Administration of the Stationery Department for the year 1896-97.

The following statement compares the value of the stocks, receipts and issues of the Stationery Office for the past two years:—

	1895-96.	1896-97.
	Rs.	Rs.
Value of stores at the beginning of the year	7,39,840	7,70,778
Gain (+) or loss (—) by re-valuing the opening balance at the issue rate of the year	+ 71,537	+ 50,327
Corrected value of stores at the beginning of the year	8,11,377	8,21,105
Value of stores received during the year	25,56,706	23,74,970
Total	33,68,083	31,96,075
Value of stores issued during the year	26,97,305	24,75,017
Value of the balance in stock at the close of the year	7,70,778	7,21,058

2. There was a decline in the value both of the stores received and issued from the Stationery Office, and in that of the stores in stock at the end of the year. The value of imported stores received in 1895-96 was calculated by adding a consolidated percentage for exchange and freight, &c., to the invoiced prices of the stores taken at two shillings per rupee, while the value of the stores received in 1896-97 was, as laid down in the Government Resolution on the Report for 1894-95, calculated at the official rate of exchange for the year, *plus* 15 per cent. on the converted value for freight, packing and other incidental charges, and therefore no proper comparison can be made between the figures representing the total value of the stores received and issued during those years. Calculated on the new method, the value of the imported stores received in 1895-96 would amount to Rs. 4,57,886, showing a decrease of Rs. 93,765 as compared with the previous year.

3. The decrease in the receipts was mainly due to a falling off of Rs. 1,78,584 in the value of English articles obtained from the India Office, and of country-made paper and country-made miscellaneous articles purchased locally. Imported articles, which vary from year to year according to the estimated requirements of the officers indenting for them, show a decrease of Rs. 66,725. There was a decline of Rs. 79,302 in the value of country-made paper, which is attributed to a reduction in the rates charged by the local Mills, and to a falling off in the demands of the Printing Presses directly under the Government of India, the Governments of the Panjab, Burma and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and also in the demands of the Postal Press at Aligarh. The falling off of Rs. 32,557 in the value of country-made miscellaneous articles, was due to smaller purchases of China ink, writing materials, miscellaneous articles and binding materials, while the value of English articles locally purchased decreased by nearly one-half.

4. The issues to Local Governments, including Vernacular Departments, show a net decrease of Rs. 1,08,991. The largest reduction, amounting to Rs. 1,10,214, took place in the supplies to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh; while small increases occurred in the issues to Bengal, Assam and Upper Burma. The value of stationery consumed by the Officers and Departments of the Government of India fell off by Rs. 55,368. An explanation of

these fluctuations will be contained in the reports which the Superintendent submits to the several Local Governments and to the Government of India.

5. The value of the stores in stock at the close of the year, though showing a decrease of Rs. 49,720 as compared with 1895-96, was still in excess of the average consumption for three months. In reference to the remarks made in paragraph 4 of the Resolution of last year, the Superintendent observes that it is not possible to so reduce the closing balance as not to exceed that average, because the supply of English goods for the following year begins to arrive in September, and continues to come in till March, so that at the end of the year, there must always be a larger stock of English stores than would represent three months' consumption. The Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to learn that the stock of country-made articles at the close of the year did not exceed two months' consumption.

6. The supply of water-marked paper for use with adhesive Court-fee stamps fell off by 797 reams, and its value by Rs. 2,590. A decrease occurred in Bengal and the Central Provinces; while Assam, the Panjab, the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, and the Native States in Orissa show an increase. Since the close of the year, the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh has begun to make use of this paper.

7. The income and expenditure of the Stationery Department amounted to Rs. 5,044 and Rs. 1,03,604, against Rs. 4,655 and Rs. 1,04,483, respectively, in 1895-96. The advance in the receipts was mainly due to a larger realisation of the 10 per cent. commission on the sale of stationery supplied on payment, a larger quantity being thus sold during the year, while the decrease in the charges is chiefly attributable to a falling off in the amount paid on account of freight. The decrease in the expenditure under the last-named head was mainly caused by the despatch of fewer packages by steamer to the State Railways in Bombay and to the East Coast Railway in Madras, and by the fact that a smaller quantity of paper was sent from the Mills to the Presses in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, the Panjab, and the Postal Press at Aligarh. The increase of Rs. 2,361 under "Landing and shipping charges" is accounted for by the adjustment of some of the charges under this heading by the Accountant-General against the contingent grant of the Superintendent's office.

8. The total value of the different articles of stationery issued, exclusive of deficiencies in stock-taking and miscellaneous adjustments, amounted to Rs. 24,71,183, against Rs. 25,92,587, showing a decrease of Rs. 1,21,404, which is attributable chiefly to a falling off in the demands of the Presses, and to a reduction in the rates for country-made paper. The largest decreases occurred under writing paper (Rs. 48,123), printing paper (Rs. 99,804) and leather (Rs. 12,357). On the other hand, there is a noticeable increase under coloured paper (Rs. 10,105), blank books (Rs. 8,142), and "other articles" (Rs. 16,502). The largest reduction in the requirements of the Printing Presses occurred in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, where there was a decrease of 9,152 reams, valued at Rs. 1,10,919. In Bengal, there was a falling off in quantity of 1,256 reams, but the value rose by Rs. 7,059, on account of some of the descriptions of paper supplied being of a special size and of greater weight.

9. In accordance with the instructions contained in paragraph 4 of the Resolution of the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department, No. 371 S.R., dated 22nd January 1895, two statements have been appended to the present Report, showing the papers and miscellaneous articles of Indian manufacture substituted for those of European-make, with the financial results obtained. From these statements it appears that the substitution of country-made paper and miscellaneous articles resulted in a net gain during the year of Rs. 1,98,116 in the case of paper, and of Rs. 8,986 in the case of other articles. A saving was effected in all the different descriptions of paper, except in the kinds known as white printing, white cartridge and coloured mottled grey, under which a loss is shown of Rs. 14,551, notwithstanding the fact that the rates of white printing and white cartridge paper were reduced by the local Mills during the year. The Lieutenant-Governor desires that, before entering into contracts with the local Mills for the supply of papers of these descriptions during 1898-99, the Standing Committee appointed to

consider the questions that may arise in connection with the substitution of country-made for English stationery, and with the settling of contracts for Indian-made stationery, will decide whether these papers should not be obtained from England, unless the Mill-owners are prepared to reduce the rates sufficiently to ensure Government against loss.

10. The supply of Newspapers and Periodicals through the Stationery Office continued to work well. There was a decrease of 130 in the number of newspapers supplied during the year, but books and periodicals show an advance of 1,998 and 97, respectively. The total payment on account of newspapers and periodicals amounted to Rs. 1,20,824, against Rs. 1,06,671 in 1895-96, showing an increase of Rs. 13,653. The excess expenditure was incurred mainly by the Government of the Panjab, the Home Department of the Government of India and the Government of Bengal.

11. The details of the work in the Form Branch will, as usual, be given in the Report on the consumption of stationery by the various Officers under the Government of Bengal, and will be reviewed when that Report is received. The total receipts and issues of standard and special forms, exclusive of the Survey and Settlement forms printed and supplied direct by the Superintendent of Government Printing, Bengal, show a considerable decrease, as compared with the previous year. The falling off in the receipts is attributed to the fact that a large number of High Court Civil Process forms, which were not due till 1896-97, were received in 1895-96, and that several other forms, which were due last year, were not received until after its close. The decline in the issues was less marked than in the previous year, but was still considerable, in view of the heavy demands for famine forms.

12. The Receipts and Charges of the Form Branch amounted to Rs. 36,757 and Rs. 48,578, against Rs. 37,084 and Rs. 47,746 in 1895-96. The decrease in the Receipts was mainly due to a smaller demand for forms by the local funds in Bengal and Assam, while the increase in the Charges is attributable to increments of salaries, payment of grain compensation allowance to menials, and the entertainment of an extra establishment for the removal of forms to the new building.

13. The Lieutenant-Governor notices, with satisfaction, that an important change was introduced during the year under review in the system of checking indents. It was decided by the Board of Revenue that demands by Officers over 10 per cent. of the number of forms previously supplied to them are not to be allowed without satisfactory explanations, and a memorandum of questions was compiled for the purpose of obtaining the necessary explanations. This measure is said to have already effected a large saving in all classes of forms.

14. The acknowledgments of the Lieutenant-Governor are due to Mr. Beames, who held the office of the Superintendent of Stationery throughout the year, for his administration of the Department.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

C. E. A. W. OLDHAM,

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

No. 2750 Stats.—The following is published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Statement showing the Stocks of Rice in and around Calcutta during September 1897.

NAMES OF MARTS.	Stock in hand as compiled on—									
	1st week of Sept. 1896. Mds.	1st week of Aug. 1897. Mds.	2nd week of Aug. 1897. Mds.	3rd week of Aug. 1897. Mds.	4th week of Aug. 1897. Mds.	5th week of Aug. 1897. Mds.	1st week of Sept. 1897. Mds.	2nd week of Sept. 1897. Mds.	3rd week of Sept. 1897. Mds.	4th week of Sept. 1897. Mds.
Balinghatta ...	3,27,000	2,29,500	2,16,500	1,93,000	1,93,000	1,88,000	1,27,000	1,26,000	1,36,000	1,32,000
Uttadanga ...	53,400	18,700	18,400	22,500	21,700	23,600	15,500	13,500	12,700	12,800
Uhitpur, Golebari, Kumartuly, Hathhola, and Culpai Ghat...	5,17,800	1,79,200	1,72,100	1,68,300	1,61,700	1,60,300	1,34,100	1,27,100	1,20,500	1,24,800
Pathuriaghatta, Posta, and Jorabagan ...	1,000	2,000	2,300	2,000	1,900	1,400	1,450	1,100	1,200	980
Tollygunge, Chetla, Kidderpore, and Munshiganj ...	1,55,100	77,200	75,200	74,000	75,600	75,700	73,700	77,100	75,200	72,500
Minor bazars (1) ...	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000
Other retail shops (1) ...	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000
Ramkrishnapur* ...	.....	72,500	69,200	68,200	59,200	66,000	47,100	50,500	75,700	78,900
Baidyabati, Nawabganj, Bhadres- war, and Chandernagoret ...	27,499	11,425	9,252	61,875	7,188	3,428	4,175	3,247	3,462	2,334
Total ...	15,71,799	10,80,525	10,52,952	10,79,875	10,10,288	10,08,428	8,93,025	8,88,547	9,14,762	9,14,314
On Railway premises on both sides of the river.†	14,861 (on 3rd Sept. 1896).	75,618 (on 31st July 1897).	1,34,535 (on 7th Aug. 1897).	2,64,851 (on 14th August 1897).	3,43,061 (on 21st August 1897).	3,35,698 (on 28th August 1897).	2,21,706 (on 4th Sept. 1897).	1,97,004 (on 11th Sept. 1897).	1,99,295 (on 18th Sept. 1897).	1,17,125 (on 25th Sept. 1897).
On boats not yet unloaded— By Port Commissioners' returns	62,342 (1st to 3rd Sept. 1896).	34,638 (31st July to 2nd Aug. 1897).	23,163 (7th to 9th Aug. 1897).	23,051 (14th to 16th Aug. 1897).	26,830 (21st to 23rd Aug. 1897).	28,804 (28th to 31st Aug. 1897).	23,826 (4th to 6th Sept. 1897).	37,604 (11th to 13th Sept. 1897).	25,920 (18th to 20th Sept. 1897).	41,414 (25th to 27th Sept. 1897).
By Canal returns ...	9,219 (1st to 3rd Sept. 1896).	6,489 (31st July to 2nd Aug. 1897).	6,660 (7th to 9th Aug. 1897).	6,986 (14th to 16th Aug. 1897).	5,891 (21st to 23rd Aug. 1897).	9,044 (28th to 30th Aug. 1897).	13,085 (4th to 6th Sept. 1897).	10,175 (11th to 13th Sept. 1897).	12,722 (18th to 20th Sept. 1897).	15,431 (25th to 27th Sept. 1897).
Grand Total of Stocks ...	16,58,221	11,97,270	12,17,910	13,74,713	13,86,070	13,81,974	11,51,642	11,33,330	11,52,699	10,88,284

* This mart is in the Howrah district, and the figures have been obtained by local enquiry.

† Figures furnished by the Collector of Hooghly.

‡ Ditto by the Railway authorities.

(1) Estimated as a constant quantity.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 28th September 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

STATISTICS OF THE SEA-BORNE TRAFFIC OF CALCUTTA IN FOOD-GRAINS.

No. 2706 Statistics.—The following memorandum and statements are published for general information.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 28th September 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Memorandum.

The sea-borne import and export traffic of Calcutta in food-grains during the week ending the 14th September 1896, and the corresponding period of 1897, is shown in the following statement:—

		8TH TO 14TH SEPTEMBER			
		1896.		1897.	
1		2	3	4	5
<i>Imports.</i>		Owts.	Mds.	Owts.	Mds.
From Foreign Ports	...	.....	...	7,059	9,608
" Indian "	...	58,232	79,260	89,115	1,21,295
Total	...	58,232	79,260	96,174	1,30,903
<i>Exports.</i>					
To Foreign Ports	...	61,835	84,164	37,414	50,924
" Indian "	...	33,649	45,800	4,984	6,784
Total	...	95,484	1,29,964	42,398	57,708

Imports.—The staples comprising the import traffic are shown in the table below and the figures for the period are compared with those for the corresponding period of last year:—

		8TH TO 14TH SEPTEMBER			
		1896.		1897.	
1		2	3	4	5
<i>Food-grains.</i>		Owts.	Mds.	Owts.	Mds.
Rice	...	34,699	47,229	87,294	1,18,817
Paddy	...	21,921	29,837	7,292	9,925
Wheat	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gram and pulses	...	1,612	2,194	1,428	1,943
Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	...	.....	.....	160	218
Total	...	58,232	79,260	96,174	1,30,903

Imports.—During the period under report, the imports of rice amounted to 87,294 cwts., against 34,699 cwts. in the second week of September 1896. The amount imported from Burma was 59,343 cwts., and that from the Straits Settlements 6,852 cwts., both against nil in the corresponding period of last year. Shipments of rice from Chandbali fell from 28,590 cwts. to 16,920 cwts., and those from Balasore from 6,109 cwts. to 1,328 cwts. The imports of paddy declined from 21,921 cwts. to 7,292 cwts., owing entirely to the receipt of smaller consignments from Balasore and Chandbali.

Exports.—In the following statement the total quantity of each kind of food-grain exported by sea during the week ending 14th September 1897 is compared with that for the corresponding period of 1896 :—

	8TH TO 14th SEPTEMBER			
	1896.		1897.	
1	2	3	4	5
	Cwts.	Mds.	Cwts.	Mds.
<i>Food-grains.</i>				
Rice	56,990	77,570	19,241	26,189
Paddy ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wheat	209	284	2,460	3,348
Gram and pulses	34,661	47,177	17,791	24,216
Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	3,624	4,983	2,906	3,955
Total ...	95,484	1,29,964	42,398	57,708

The exports of rice from Calcutta to foreign ports fell from 51,334 cwts. in the second week of September 1896 to 18,483 cwts. in the period under report, owing chiefly to a decline in the exports to Mauritius, which received 6,676 cwts., against 14,791 cwts., and to the cessation of exports to Reunion and Muscat which received 20,551 cwts. and 3,506 cwts. respectively in the corresponding period of last year. The exports of gram and pulses rose from 6,804 cwts. to 15,809 cwts., the shipments to Mauritius having increased from 5,685 cwts. to 12,234 cwts.

As regards Indian ports, the exports of rice during the second week of September 1897 amounted to only 758 cwts., against 5,656 cwts. in the corresponding period of last year. The shipments for Bombay were 341 cwts., against 4,760 cwts. in the second week of September 1896. Owing chiefly to the despatch of 1,481 cwts. to Rangoon and 600 cwts. to Madras, against nil in both cases in the same period in 1896, the trade in wheat showed an improvement of 2,251 cwts. The exports of gram and pulses, however, were less by nearly one-half, viz., from 34,661 cwts. to 17,791 cwts., the decrease being due to the absence of consignments to Bombay, which drew 23,264 cwts. in the second week of September 1896, and to a decrease in the quantity sent to Madras from 3,243 cwts. to only 517 cwts.

Detailed statements showing the sources of supply and the places of destination, both as regards Foreign and Indian ports, are given below :—

Statement No. I, showing the Imports of Food-grains into Calcutta from Foreign and Indian Ports during the week ending 14th September 1896 and 1897.

Ports.		Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	Total.	
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	
From Indian Ports.		Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	Owts.	
Madras	{ Madras	... { 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		... { 1897 ...	2,843	.....	554	.....	3,397
	{ Coconada	... { 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		... { 1897 ...	.....	.....	597	.....	597
	{ Negapatam	... { 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		... { 1897 ...	.....	.....	.....	107	107
Burma	{ Rangoon	... { 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		... { 1897 ...	45,601	362	.....	.....	45,963
	{ Moulmein	... { 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		... { 1897 ...	13,742	..	.....	.....	13,742
Balasore	{ Balasore	... { 1896 ...	6,109	12,454	.....	.....	18,563
		... { 1897 ...	1,328	1,941	.....	.....	3,269
	{ Chandbali	... { 1896 ...	28,590	9,467	.....	1,612	39,669
		... { 1897 ...	16,920	4,843	.....	277	22,040
		Total Indian Ports		... { 1896 ...	34,699	21,921	1,612	58,232
		... { 1897 ...	80,434	7,146	1,428	107	89,116
From Foreign Ports.								
United Kingdom		... { 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		... { 1897 ...	.....	.....	.....	53	53
Ceylon		... { 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		... { 1897 ...	8	.....	.....	.....	8
Straits Settlements		... { 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		... { 1897 ...	6,852	146	.....	.....	6,998
Total Foreign Ports		... { 1896 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		... { 1897 ...	6,860	146	.....	53	7,069
GRAND TOTAL OF FOREIGN AND INDIAN PORTS		... { 1896 ...	34,699	21,921	.....	1,612	58,232
		... { 1897 ...	87,294	7,292	1,428	160	96,174

Statement No. II, showing the Exports of Food-grains from Calcutta to Foreign and Indian Ports during the week ending 14th September 1896 and 1897.

Ports.		Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	Total.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>To Foreign Ports.</i>		Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
United Kingdom	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	5,024 7,091	..... .....	..... .....	967 2,200	..... .....	5,991 9,291
Cape Colony	{ Cape Town	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	587 .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	587
	{ Algea Bay	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	..... 738	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... 738
	{ Mossel Bay	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	738 .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	738
Mauritius	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	14,791 6,676	..... .....	..... 147	5,685 12,224	3,602 2,840	24,078 21,987
Reunion	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	20,551 .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	20,551
Aden	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	240 .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	240
Arabia—Mascot	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	3,506 .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	3,506
Ceylon	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	5,893 3,966	..... .....	..... 16	..... 962	..... .....	5,893 4,943
China—Hongkong	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	..... 9	..... .....	..... .....	..... 6	..... .....	..... 16
Straits Settlements	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	4 3	..... .....	73 120	639 417	22	738 640
Queensland	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	40 .....	..... .....	40
South Australia	{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	73 .....	..... .....	73
Total Foreign Ports		{ 1896 ... 1897 ...	51,334 18,433	..... 282	73 15,809	6,804 2,840	51,835 37,414

Ports.				Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.	Total.
1				2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>To Indian Ports.</i>				Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Bombay	...	...	{ 1896	4,760	.....	.....	23,264	.....	28,024
			{ 1897	941	.....	.....	.....	66	407
Madras	{	Madras	{ 1896	.....	.....	.....	2,962	.....	2,962
			{ 1897	.....	.....	550	392	.....	942
	{	Bimlipatam	{ 1896	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
			{ 1897	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	4
	{	Coconada	{ 1896	.....	.....	.....	60	.....	60
			{ 1897	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	{	Cochin	{ 1896	.....	.....	.....	221	.....	221
			{ 1897	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	{	Negapatam	{ 1896	.....	.....	.....	46	78	119
			{ 1897	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Burma	{	Vizagapatam	{ 1896	1	.....	.....	62	.....	63
			{ 1897	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	{	Rangoon	{ 1896	375	.....	.....	926	.....	1,301
			{ 1897	417	.....	1,481	893	.....	2,791
	{	Akyab	{ 1896	19	.....	14	148	.....	181
			{ 1897	.....	.....	.....	185	.....	185
Chittagong	...	...	{ 1896	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
			{ 1897	.....	.....	.....	237	.....	237
Balasore	{	Balasore ...	{ 1896	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	100
			{ 1897	.....	.....	.....	75	.....	75
	{	Chandbali	{ 1896	1	.....	122	111	.....	234
			{ 1897	.....	.....	97	75	.....	172
Total Indian Ports ...				{ 1896	5,656	.....	136	.....	33,648
				{ 1897	758	.....	2,178	66	4,986
GRAND TOTAL OF FOREIGN AND INDIAN PORTS.				{ 1896	56,990	.....	209	34,661	95,460
				{ 1897	19,241	.....	2,460	17,791	42,392

STATISTICS OF THE SEA-BORNE TRAFFIC OF THE MINOR PORTS IN BENGAL IN FOOD-GRAINS.

No. 2753 Statistics.—The following memorandum and statements are published for general information.

STATISTICAL DEPT.,
The 28th September 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Memorandum.

THE comparative statements below give statistics of the import and export trade of the minor ports of Chittagong, Narayanganj, Balasore (including both Balasore and Chandbali), Cuttack, and Puri during the week ending 7th September 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896:—

IMPORTS.

Ports			From Foreign ports.	From Indian ports.	Total.	
					Cwts.	Mds.
Chittagong ...	{ 1896	...	.....	619	619	843
	{ 1897	...	.....	3,111	3,111	4,234
Narayanganj ...	{ 1896	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	{ 1897	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Balasore ports...	{ 1896	...	.....	58	58	79
	{ 1897	...	.....	616	616	839
Cuttack ...	{ 1896	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	{ 1897	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puri ...	{ 1896	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	{ 1897	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	{ 1896	...	.....	677	677	922
	{ 1897	...	.....	3,727	3,727	5,073

EXPORTS.

Ports.			To Foreign ports.	To Indian ports.	Total.	
					Cwts.	Mds.
Chittagong ...	{ 1896	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	{ 1897	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Narayanganj ...	{ 1896	...	.....	184	184	251
	{ 1897	...	.....	70	70	95
Balasore ports...	{ 1896	...	.....	46,704	46,704	63,569
	{ 1897	...	.....	21,229	21,229	28,895
Cuttack ...	{ 1896	...	14,490	1,700	16,190	22,036
	{ 1897	...	9,656	.....	9,656	13,143
Puri ...	{ 1896	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	{ 1897	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	{ 1896	...	14,490	48,588	63,078	85,856
	{ 1897	...	9,656	21,299	30,955	42,133

The total imports of rice into Chittagong during the week under report amounted to 2,498 cwts., the whole of which came from Burma, against nil in the 1st week of September 1896. The export trade of Balasore in food-grains during the period under review was confined to Calcutta and fell by 25,475 cwts., viz., from 46,704 cwts. to 21,229 cwts., the decreases in the different staples being 10,890 cwts. under rice, 13,222 cwts. under paddy, and 1,863 cwts. under gram and pulse. From False Point, 7,318 cwts. of rice were shipped to Mauritius against nil in the first week in September 1896, while only 2,338 cwts. went to Colombo against 14,490 cwts. in the first week in September 1896. Oochin, which received 1,616 cwts. of rice in the week ending 7th September 1896, drew nothing in the corresponding week of 1897.

Detailed statements showing the sources of supply and the places of destination, both as regards Foreign and Indian ports, are given below:—

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains imported into Chittagong from each Foreign and Indian Port during the week ending 7th September 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS FROM WHICH IMPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		TOTAL.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Foreign Ports.</i>	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Nil	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
<i>Indian Ports.</i>												
Burma { Akyab	.....	1,616	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,616
Rangoon	.....	882	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	882
Calcutta	.....	511	.....	.....	.....	.....	78	183	30	188	619	571
Narayanganj	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	242	.....	.....	.....	242
Total	511	2,498	.....	.....	.....	.....	78	425	30	188	619	3,111

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains exported from Narayanganj to each Foreign and Indian Port during the week ending 7th September 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS TO WHICH EXPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		Total.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Foreign Port.</i>	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Nil	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
<i>Indian Port.</i>												
Chittagong	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	184	70	.....	.....	184	70
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	184	70	.....	.....	184	70

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains imported into Balasore from each Foreign and Indian Port during the week ending 7th September 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS FROM WHICH IMPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		Total.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Foreign Port.</i>	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Nil	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
<i>Indian Port.</i>												
Calcutta	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	71	43	105	.....	380	85	616
Total	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	71	43	105	.....	380	85	616

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains exported from Balasore to each Foreign and Indian Port during the week ending 7th September 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS TO WHICH EXPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains, such as jowar, barley, oats, &c.		Total.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Foreign Port.												
Nil												
Indian Port.												
Calcutta	27,357	16,367	17,634	4,613			1,613	250			46,704	21,229
Total	27,357	16,367	17,634	4,613			1,613	250			46,704	21,229

Statement showing the quantities of Food-grains exported from False Point in the Cuttack district to each Foreign and Indian Port during the week ending 7th September 1897, as compared with the trade of the corresponding period of 1896.

PORTS TO WHICH EXPORTED.	Rice.		Paddy.		Wheat.		Gram and pulse.		Other food-grains.		Total.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Foreign Ports.												
Mauritius	14,490	9,656									14,490	9,656
Colombo												
Total	14,490	9,656									14,490	9,656
Indian Ports.												
Bombay							84				84	
Madras-Cochin	1,616										1,616	
Total	1,616						84				1,700	
GRAND TOTAL	16,106	9,656					84				16,190	9,656

EXPORTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

No. 2751 Statistics.—The following statement shows the quantity of rice and other food-grains exported by the East Indian Railway from Calcutta and Howrah during the period from 1st January to 18th September 1897, both days inclusive, to have been 94,76,233 maunds. The destination of 92,67,910 maunds is specified. Of this quantity 30,39,337 maunds were carried to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, 40,51,565 maunds to stations in Bengal, 14,44,782 maunds to the Central Provinces, and the rest 7,32,226 maunds to other provinces. In the last week of the period, 16,150 maunds were exported to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and 25,865 maunds to Bihar.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 28th September 1897.

M. FINUCANE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Statement showing the quantities of rice and other food-grains exported from Howrah and Calcutta (Chitpur Kidderpore Docks, and Port Trust Railway) by the East Indian Railway, from 1st January to 18th September 1897.

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 18th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BENGAL.						
<i>Hooghly.</i>						
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Hooghly ...	...	...	...	339	...	...
Tarakeswar ...	2,122	...	...	...	...	...
Chandernagore ...	109	...	...	...	...	...
Dasghora ...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Pandua ...	14	...	...	...	...	...
Bainchi ...	17	...	...	...	...	...
Bhadreswar ...	664	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	2,928	...	...	339	...	...
<i>Burdwan.</i>						
Memari ...	163	...	...	...	...	...
Rasulpur ...	4	...	...	...	...	...
Burdwan ...	1,094	...	389	...	...	...
Raniganj ...	9,653	3,972	1,572	114	381	...
Sitarampur ...	10	...	...	...	...	...
Ghuskara ...	103	...	...	...	...	...
Kanu Junction ...	349	...	...	...	...	...
Mankar ...	...	99	61	...	...	...
Asansol ...	...	...	523	...	...	...
Total ...	11,376	4,071	2,545	114	381	...
<i>Birbhum.</i>						
Murairai ...	378	...	...	...	...	...
Bolpur ...	2	101	1,261	...	159	...
Sainthia ...	1	...	103	143	...	...
Rampur Hat ...	683	...	...	...	...	...
Ahmadpur ...	302	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,366	101	1,364	143	159	...
<i>Nadia.</i>						
Mirpur ...	7,218	965	...	...	...	...
Chuadanga ...	3,998	3,670	378	...	...	...
Kushtia ...	17,613	2,841	...	...	347	...
Alamdanga ...	5,275	2,202	...	...	...	...
Bhairamara ...	6,407	1,001	...	...	...	...
Damukdia ...	9,349	10,244	924	...	383	608
Bagula ...	3,819	849	...	...	...	...
Kumarkhali ...	3,286	378	...	382	...	...
Khoksa ...	1,828	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	58,743	21,650	1,302	382	730	608
<i>Jessore.</i>						
Jessore ...	1,014	740	...	...	...	...
Singia ...	2,478	12,788	...	...	...	...
Total ...	3,492	13,528	...	...	...	...
<i>Murshidabad.</i>						
Azimganj ...	6,277	3,018	1,929	...	380	381
Jiaganj ...	1,930	3,770	1,503	...	...	383
Dhulian ...	...	747	2,638	...	...	...
Jangipur ...	...	378	377	...	...	...
Total ...	8,207	7,918	6,447	...	380	764

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 18th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BENGAL—						
<i>contd.</i>						
<i>Rajshahi.</i>	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Malanchi ...	1,413	529	...	...	152	...
Atrai ...	...	...	2,083	...	...	923
Raninagar ...	...	...	1,054	...	...	...
Nator ...	...	...	189	...	...	...
Total ...	1,413	529	3,326	...	152	923
<i>Dinajpur.</i>						
Dinajpur ...	878	2,417	343	...	...	...
<i>Rangpur.</i>						
Saidpur ...	767	829	...	...	...	...
Kurigram ...	109	...	...	...	...	...
Lalmonir Hât ...	55	...	...	...	...	...
Domer ...	685	100	...	223	...	...
Kaunia ...	373	...	...	...	...	...
Kaliganj ...	770	...	...	...	...	...
Mogal Hât ...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Total ...	2,759	929	...	223	...	120
Cooch Behar ...	20,763	378	754	...	...	...
<i>Jalpaiguri.</i>						
Dam-Dim ...	...	100	...	...	...	...
Mandalghat ...	400	300	...	203	...	...
Haldibari ...	3,037	628	839	...	269	134
Jalpaiguri ...	25,224	13,448	1,820	2,396	600	1,241
Ramshai Hât ...	4,493	376	749	...	...	375
Mal Bazar ...	2,809	223	100	101	...	...
Belakoba ...	101	...	...	...	...	...
Chalsa Road Ghat ...	...	1,511	1,431	452	...	1,022
Total ...	36,004	16,586	4,489	3,152	869	2,772
<i>Darjeeling.</i>						
Bonada ...	522	2,038	215	...	...	102
Siliguri ...	5,395	7,067	1,724	436	1,118	809
Ghoom ...	2,611	2,631	349	...	152	385
Darjeeling ...	2,031	4,684	1,914	...	405	1,544
Kurseong ...	4,493	7,037	750	300	607	891
Rangtang ...	363	...	...	...	...	...
Gyabari ...	...	380	380	...	...	...
Mahanadi ...	...	...	386	...	...	...
Total ...	16,835	23,837	5,718	736	2,277	3,731
<i>Bogra.</i>						
Akelpur ...	...	2,855	2,118	...	532	200
Jaipur Hât ...	...	4,482	1,174	...	102	203
Jamalganj ...	...	2,072	100	...	204	103
Hili ...	...	130	...	...	...	...
Sultanpur ...	...	...	4,093	206	...	1,600
Total ...	...	9,539	7,490	206	838	2,106
<i>Pabna.</i>						
Sirajganj ...	6,295	...	760	331	765	...
<i>Dacca.</i>						
Munshiganj ...	...	1,591	...	...	...	...
Dacca ...	380	...	...	...	131	...
Narayanganj ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	380	1,591	...	...	131	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 18th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BENGAL— consolid.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Faridpur.</i>						
Pangsa ...	7,257	1,769	470	...	...	382
Rajbari ...	7,571	...	...	...	...	...
Goalundo ...	11,414	2,300	2,532	1,106	708	...
Pachuria ...	1,374	377	...	2,986	...	...
Total ...	27,616	4,446	3,002	4,092	708	382
<i>Backergunge.</i>						
Jhalokati ...	...	...	...	2,279	649	...
<i>Khulna.</i>						
Phultala ...	360	541	754	...	...	...
Nawapara ...	...	...	200	...	...	...
Khulna ...	...	...	...	...	108	...
Total ...	360	541	954	...	108	...
TOTAL OF BENGAL	1,98,470	1,08,056	38,444	12,047	8,142	11,406
CHOTA NAG- PUR.						
<i>Hazaribagh.</i>						
Giridih ...	16,484	5,681	1,116	...	...	...
<i>Manbhum.</i>						
Purulia ...	2,972	3,602	1,466	1,450	...	...
Bulrampur ...	722	1,591	...	...	...	...
Barakar ...	156	482	371	...	...	...
Pradhan Khanta ...	2,377	762	2,453	...	...	...
Katrasgarh ...	101	...	...	...	...	...
Anara ...	...	...	138	...	...	...
Adra ...	...	...	126	...	...	...
Kalubathan ...	...	...	762	...	...	...
Total ...	6,328	6,437	5,816	1,450	...	...
<i>Singbhum.</i>						
Chakradharpur ...	31	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	31	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL OF CHOTA NAGPUR	22,793	12,118	6,432	1,450	...	...
BIHAR.						
<i>Sonthal Parganas.</i>						
Barharwa ...	7,097	6,838	5,868	...	...	...
Maharajpur Ghat ...	1,129	...	...	...	...	...
Pakour ...	3,011	1,890	6,465	...	...	...
Sahibganj ...	43,325	13,427	11,289	151	...	...
Baidyanath ...	11,724	3,891	1,473	...	...	...
Madhupur ...	2,045	...	1,077	...	...	...
Rajmahal ...	1,205	1,919	2,288	...	...	...
Tinpahar ...	...	1,888	2,296	...	...	...
Kotal Pakour ...	...	...	1,527	...	...	...
Mihijam ...	...	...	381	...	...	...
Jamtara ...	...	...	381	...	...	...
Total ...	69,536	29,853	32,495	151	...	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Sep- tember 1897.	Week ending 11th Sep- tember 1897.	Week ending 18th Sep- tember 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BEHAR—contd.						
<i>Purnea.</i>	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Kissenganj ...	879	...	...	...	...	...
Katihar Junction ...	4,509	871	...	...	...	...
Manihari ...	61	6	...	...	...	...
Sonali ...	340	751	...	...	...	...
Kasba ...	870	740	370	...	...	...
Other places ...	...	2,751	...	...	...	...
Total ...	5,665	4,619	370	...	...	...
<i>Bhagalpur.</i>						
Nathnagar ...	5,389	1,532	1,134	...	...	...
Colgong ...	25,466	1,511	1,597	...	...	...
Pirpainti ...	13,947	6,048	762	...	...	...
Ghoga ...	2,248	...	...	...	...	...
Bhagalpur ...	66,546	19,709	10,843	1,141	...	...
Sultanganj ...	3,770	...	380	...	...	...
Raghupur ...	870	...	...	...	...	...
Pertabganj ...	874	...	...	...	...	...
Bhaptiahi ...	...	2,262	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,18,060	31,122	14,126	1,141	...	...
<i>Monghyr.</i>						
Bariarpur ...	882	...	...	...	...	...
Khagaria ...	9,517	3,386	4,975	...	...	...
Jamulpur ...	1,521	1,120	3,040	...	...	...
Lakhisarai ...	24,529	2,473	6,626	1,626	...	...
Monghyr ...	6,448	2,639	4,149	878	371	...
Garhara ...	36,145	9,843	7,618	492	...	...
Tegra ...	9,825	6,940	3,051	...	...	...
Jamui ...	4,203	...	1,134	...	...	...
Begamsarai ...	871	...	...	...	...	...
Burhi ...	3,031	3,768	3,384	975	...	...
Simultola ...	2,657	162	348	...	...	...
Nawadi ...	371	...	...	...	...	...
Kajra ...	752	2,256	1,503	...	...	...
Total ...	99,752	32,587	35,328	3,466	371	...
<i>Patna.</i>						
Masaurhi ...	375	...	...	...	...	...
Khushrupur ...	23,700	12,553	6,822	1,138	963	...
Barh ...	18,905	9,109	6,409	878	...	749
Patna ...	1,97,224	83,104	48,290	17,141	5,375	4,975
Bankipore ...	3,372	4,920	2,647	3,036	770	...
Wigha Ghat ...	49,331	18,339	10,657	3,427	761	1,523
Sadisapur ...	752	...	...	...	...	...
Bihra ...	3,602	4,211	10,244	2,669	332	762
Mokameh ...	23,469	14,484	11,303	3,905	...	...
Dinapur ...	7,823	1,128	380	...	...	...
Buktarpur ...	5,908	12,176	15,988	4,954	381	...
Fatua ...	3,317	1,896	3,037	1,911	1,182	...
Total ...	3,38,068	1,61,920	1,15,837	38,559	9,714	8,009
<i>Gaya.</i>						
Gaya ...	66,331	17,060	28,726	8,474	1,133	6,473
Jahanabad ...	2,621	5,723	8,705	3,436	...	...
Bela ...	873	...	...	...	...	...
Mukdampur ...	371	...	380	...	...	...
Total ...	69,696	22,803	37,811	11,960	1,133	6,473
<i>Shahabad.</i>						
Bodadi ...	8,091	763	...	...	...	...
Raghunathpur ...	11,340	1,509	4,938	...	1,129	767
Arrah ...	23,071	15,691	16,933	1,903	875	1,954
Buzar ...	27,935	18,157	24,676	6,053	11,977	1,139
Dumraon ...	7,910	1,510	3,022	753	761	...
Bihia ...	...	...	704	1,130	395	...
Total ...	78,347	37,629	50,333	9,842	14,637	3,360

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNEED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 18th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BIHAR—conold.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Darbhanga.</i>						
Sakri ...	5,642	375	8,799	...	877	...
Tamaria ...	4,144	370	878	...	...	...
Samastipur ...	80,779	12,822	12,511	481	...	...
Dalsingh Sarai ...	80,098	14,717	14,115	1,515	...	...
Darbhanga ...	2,25,091	62,524	31,141	...	...	880
Kamtaul ...	1,857	3,435	1,540	...	...	...
Waini ...	4,543	1,141	881	...	...	...
Jhanjharpur ...	1,508	3,389	1,521	875	...	...
Total ...	1,62,662	98,773	65,386	2,371	877	380
<i>Muzaffarpur.</i>						
Janakpur Road ...	759	377	...	...	...	...
Sarai ...	1,874	757	1,511	...	...	...
Bairagnia ...	2,405	...	...	...	...	...
Kanti ...	1,512	...	...	...	...	...
Matipur ...	1,398	...	...	...	...	...
Dholi ...	1,893	...	874	...	...	...
Muzaffarpur ...	2,11,741	42,034	29,219	758	1,904	747
Bhagwanpur ...	6,996	2,268	3,036	376	...	...
Sitamarhi ...	57,756	21,033	4,229	370	...	...
Hajipur ...	22,362	7,659	12,585	1,898	...	...
Garnul ...	1,490	1,890	1,889	...	...	...
Total ...	3,10,285	76,013	52,873	3,402	1,904	747
<i>Ohamparan.</i>						
Maesi ...	11,951	...	377	...	380	...
Segowli ...	9,694	1,127	380	...	...	...
Jindara ...	22,495	...	...	...	...	...
Bettiah ...	1,78,145	22,636	16,418	...	...	...
Bara ...	42,715	6,125	2,273	...	...	...
Motihari ...	86,241	12,445	3,003	...	...	...
Pipra ...	7,051	1,107	877	...	...	...
Total ...	3,58,292	43,440	22,828	...	380	...
<i>Saran.</i>						
Dighwara ...	1,887	6,097	7,298	3,438	1,137	...
Ekma ...	12,775	9,428	8,688	1,516	379	...
Chapra ...	1,28,760	26,967	25,154	8,402	3,796	743
Goldenganj ...	873	...	...	...	...	...
Daronda ...	34,771	9,041	4,887	764	...	...
Saran ...	1,67,919	46,099	24,553	7,124	8,195	4,496
Revelganj ...	1,11,822	33,297	26,739	4,562	3,410	1,152
Mairwa ...	747	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	4,58,954	1,30,929	97,319	25,806	16,917	6,396
TOTAL OF BIHAR.	22,69,317	6,69,688	5,25,206	96,698	45,433	25,865
TOTAL OF PRO- VINCES UNDER THE LIEUTENANT- GOVERNOR OF BENGAL.	24,90,580	7,89,862	5,70,082	1,10,195	53,575	87,271
ASSAM.						
<i>Cachar.</i>						
Silchar ...	347	...	...	...	...	...
Sealtik ...	...	1,006	...	...	...	...
Total ...	347	1,006	...	...	...	...
<i>Nowgong.</i>						
Nowgong ...	...	...	380	...	...	...
Total of Assam ...	347	1,006	380	...	...	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Sep- tember 1897.	Week ending 11th Sep- tember 1897.	Week ending 18th Sep- tember 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NORTH-WEST- ERN PROVINCES AND OUDH.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Ghazipur District.</i>						
Dildarnagar ...	25,027	7,593	1,907	878	1,185	874
Guhmer ...	865	...	1,580	761	880	...
Tari Ghat ...	20,523	3,422	8,017	1,139	4,150	383
Ghazipur ...	...	757	...	...	754	...
Total ...	45,915	11,772	6,494	2,278	6,419	757
<i>Benares District.</i>						
Dhina ...	877	...	...	...	875	...
Shiupur ...	2,270	1,897	...	...	...	...
Zamania ...	38,357	3,445	2,657	...	753	...
Sakaldiha ...	4,160	...	378	...	...	...
Mogulsarai ...	3,405	...	...	...	...	...
Benares Cantonment	1,52,254	27,260	25,360	1,517	765	5,772
Total ...	2,00,823	32,602	28,305	1,517	1,893	5,772
<i>Gorakhpur District.</i>						
Bhagalpur Gogra ...	3,375	...	...	...	...	...
Chauri Chaura ...	3,753	745	...	...	...	...
Tahsil Deoria ...	10,612	2,288	1,131	...	...	...
Gorakhpur ...	7,987	4,567	3,782	...	...	...
Sahjanwa ...	5,340	...	...	...	...	...
Bhatpur ...	30,110	4,535	3,388	...	...	...
Total ...	61,177	12,135	8,301	...	...	...
<i>Basti District.</i>						
Khalilabad ...	1,126	...	...	...	...	...
Basti ...	11,438	...	...	...	...	...
Uska Bazar ...	4,144	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	16,708	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Gonda District.</i>						
Gonda ...	19,514	...	761	...	...	...
Other places ...	9,044	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	28,558	...	761	...	...	...
<i>Baraich District.</i>						
Naupara ...	1,895	...	...	...	...	...
Baraich ...	4,894	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	6,789	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Mirzapur District.</i>						
Ahaura Road ...	22,227	4,501	2,667	...	125	...
Chunar ...	4,929	1,127	370	...	...	...
Mirzapur ...	84,654	7,960	17,413	...	...	388
Gainpura ...	3,045	748	380	...	...	...
Total ...	1,14,955	14,336	20,830	...	125	388
<i>Allahabad District.</i>						
Karchana ...	7,163	1,514	1,147	...	...	...
Naini ...	370	374	...	...	...	...
Manwari ...	2,631	350	...	...	...	...
Jasra ...	35,884	2,276	3,061	...	...	...
Mija Road ...	1,18,409	6,334	5,726	380	...	383
Nahwai ...	6,053	1,528	1,919	...	...	...
Allahabad ...	1,94,987	10,701	20,491	1,880	...	392
Bharwari ...	22,940	...	778	...	...	...
Sirathu ...	15,916	377	...	...	...	...
Shiurajpur ...	12,433	754	1,555	...	...	...
Other places ...	376	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	4,17,162	24,708	34,677	2,260	...	775

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 18th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NORTH-WEST- ERN PROVINCES AND OUDH— contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Fatehpur District.</i>						
Bahrampur ...	1,889	381	...	...	...	...
Khaga ...	4,542	...	...	...	...	...
Bindki ...	59,519	3,793	2,279	386	...	...
Fatehpur ...	773	103	1,143	...	...	...
Total ...	66,723	4,277	3,422	386	...	...
<i>Cawnpore District.</i>						
Cawnpore City ...	3,78,602	6,044	15,333	380	...	...
<i>Etawah District.</i>						
Phaphund ...	10,999	...	...	...	...	...
Bharthna ...	766	...	...	...	...	...
Etawah ...	46,658	1,143	370	...	...	...
Jaswantnagar ...	9,451	...	...	761	...	...
Total ...	67,874	1,143	370	761	...	...
<i>Farukhabad Dis- trict.</i>						
Fatehgarh ...	373	...	...	...	...	...
Farukhabad ...	753	...	...	...	...	...
Kanauj ...	381	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,507	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Mainpuri District.</i>						
Kaurara ...	6,443	...	...	...	...	...
Shakohabad ...	6,497	751	...	...	...	...
Total ...	12,940	751	...	...	...	...
<i>Agra District.</i>						
Firozabad ...	24,396	377	379	...	...	...
Agra ...	1,09,626	11,341	5,266	764	380	3,838
Barhan ...	260	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,34,282	11,718	5,645	764	380	3,838
<i>Sitapur District.</i>						
Sitapur ...	12,438	373	...	...	...	...
<i>Muttra District.</i>						
Kosi ...	1,564	...	...	...	...	...
Muttra ...	11,371	758	758	...	...	...
Brindaban ...	696	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	13,631	758	758	...	...	...
<i>Alighur District.</i>						
Harduaganj ...	755	...	...	...	...	...
Sikandra Rao ...	753	...	...	...	...	...
Hatras ...	82,104	9,427	1,784	1,153	...	...
Alighur ...	19,679	2,268	2,667	757	...	386
Total ...	1,03,191	11,695	4,451	1,910	...	386

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 18th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NORTH-WEST- ERN PROVINCES AND OUDH— contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Bulandshahr Dis- trict.</i>						
Chola ...	1,504	...	381	...	...	...
Secundrabad ...	5,289	...	752	379	377	...
Khurja ...	30,846	...	2,264	755	...	...
Dibai ...	4,913	...	754	...	...	...
Total ...	42,052	...	4,151	1,134	377	...
<i>Muzaffarnagar Dis- trict.</i>						
Muzaffarnagar ...	757	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Meerut District.</i>						
Ghaziabad ...	5,135	874	...	...	...	...
Meerut ...	42,541	1,150	765	...	...	...
Total ...	47,676	1,524	765	...	...	...
<i>Banda District.</i>						
Badansa ...	4,530	...	875	...	...	...
Banda ...	37,554	3,802	4,934	753	...	...
Bargarh ...	11,332	784	391	...	...	...
Manikpur ...	7,919	1,142	1,178	...	...	...
Kurwi ...	48,218	...	1,129	...	...	...
Majhgawan ...	376	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,04,928	5,723	8,007	753	...	...
<i>Moradabad District.</i>						
Khanth ...	1,885	...	...	...	...	...
Moradabad ...	11,699	...	381	...	...	...
Chundowsi ...	21,796	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	35,380	...	381	...	...	...
<i>Azimgarh District.</i>						
Shahganj ...	27,277	1,509	2,675	...	...	...
<i>Barailly District.</i>						
Nawabganj ...	754	...	...	...	...	...
Aonla ...	7,627	...	...	...	...	...
Barailly ...	47,274	2,311	1,520	...	761	...
Total ...	55,655	2,311	1,520	...	761	...
<i>Jaunpur District.</i>						
Jaunpur ...	65,666	6,855	5,859	...	...	381
<i>Shajehanpur Dis- trict.</i>						
Shajehanpur ...	20,082	380	762	...	...	...
Tilhar ...	16,026	...	...	...	...	...
Anjhi ...	11,030	380	381	...	...	...
Rosa Junction ...	373	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	47,511	760	1,143	...	...	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNEED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 18th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NORTH-WEST- ERN PROVINCES AND OUDH— contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Eta District.</i>						
Jaleswar Road ...	886	...	...	...	...	...
Kashganj ...	4,146	...	881	...	...	...
Total ...	4,532	...	881	...	...	...
<i>Lucknow District.</i>						
Lucknow ...	1,02,870	3,044	4,186	...	1,151	2,708
Alamnagar ...	38,257	758	765	372	...	1,145
Kakori ...	3,020	...	...	...	...	...
Malihabad ...	754	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,44,401	3,802	4,951	872	1,151	8,853
<i>Pilibhit District.</i>						
Pilibhit ...	1,516	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Saharanpur District.</i>						
Rurki ...	873	...	...	...	...	...
Saharanpur ...	15,033	...	...	881	...	...
Total ...	15,406	...	...	881	...	...
<i>Fyzabad District.</i>						
Sahwal ...	783	...	...	...	...	...
Radhauli ...	20,772	...	...	...	...	...
Fyzabad ...	72,070	3,787	7,621	...	...	...
Ajodhya ...	10,993	...	...	...	...	...
Gosainganj ...	3,783	374	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,08,406	4,161	7,621	...	...	...
<i>Sultanpur District.</i>						
Akbarpur ...	9,786	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Bara Banki District.</i>						
Bahramghat ...	7,166	758	...	...	...	...
Duryabad ...	2,275	...	...	...	...	...
Bara Banki ...	14,417	769	...	...	...	...
Safdarganj ...	52,935	758	...	...	...	...
Total ...	76,793	2,285	...	...	...	...
<i>Hardai District.</i>						
Balamau ...	755	...	...	...	...	...
Hardai ...	21,328	374	881	...	376	...
Baghauli ...	14,899	...	...	...	...	...
Sandila ...	5,667	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	42,649	874	881	...	376	...
<i>Bijnor District.</i>						
Dhampur ...	8,692	...	...	...	...	...
Nagina ...	9,081	1,131	...	...	...	...
Najibabad ...	10,568	709	...	...	...	...
Bijnor ...	2,618	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	30,959	1,840	...	...	...	...
<i>Unao.</i>						
Unao ...	...	...	881	...	...	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Sep- tember 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 18th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NORTH-WEST- ERN PROVINCES AND OUDH— concd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Jhansi District.</i>						
Jhansi ...	6,425	1,532	875	...	...	...
<i>Lalitpur District.</i>						
Lalitpur ...	4,506	756	381	...	...	...
<i>Kheri District.</i>						
Lakshmipur ...	3,389	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Hamirpur District.</i>						
Mahoba ...	16,262	1,898	2,262	381	...	...
<i>Dohra Dun District.</i>						
Hardwar ...	378	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Jalaun District.</i>						
Ait ...	1,117	...	...	...	...	...
Kalpi ...	1,873	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	2,990	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Garhwal District.</i>						
Haldwani ...	2,264	...	...	...	...	...
Other places ...	72,531	1,898	4,579	305	...	...
TOTAL OF THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH.	26,53,270	1,69,550	1,75,243	13,642	11,462	16,150
PANJAB.						
<i>Amritsur District.</i>						
Amritsur ...	740	...	...	382	...	...
<i>Delhi District.</i>						
Delhi ...	2,31,956	11,335	14,105	4,960	3,750	7,619
<i>Jullundur District.</i>						
Jullundur City ...	3	...	...	886	...	...
<i>Umballa District.</i>						
Umballa City ...	17,863	140	...	...	...	...
<i>Gurgaon District.</i>						
Faraknagar ...	378	...	...	...	...	...
Gurgaon ...	1,890	...	...	...	...	...
Bowari ...	64,441	1,133	3,773	...	1,499	375
Total ...	66,709	1,133	3,773	...	1,499	375
<i>Rawalpindi District.</i>						
Rawalpindi ...	...	...	1,873	1,125	...	...
Other places ...	96,050	1,901	13,782	...	403	...
TOTAL OF THE PANJAB.	1,13,321	14,509	33,533	6,853	5,652	7,994

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNEED.	Total from 1st January to 30th June 1897.	Total from 1st to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 18th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
CENTRAL PRO- VINCES.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Sehora Road ...	20,160	6,077	5,691	382	750	380
Katni ...	66,879	10,590	8,014	2,274	755	...
Jubbulpur ...	1,95,098	6,835	22,379	2,280	380	1,128
Peparia ...	41,578	2,361	2,649	...	875	381
Kareli ...	37,346	9,146	3,829	1,131	...	397
Nagpur ...	78,979	21,248	33,464	6,490	1,883	1,169
Other places ...	5,80,702	1,16,171	1,19,291	23,220	9,418	3,502
Total ...	10,20,742	1,72,428	1,95,317	35,777	13,561	6,957
RAJPUTANA AND CENTRAL INDIA.						
Dholpur ...	1,126	...	...	...	...	...
Ajmere ...	759	758	881	...	379	...
Sutna ...	1,06,401	11,429	14,810	2,640	...	...
Mhow ...	2,838	...	...	...	...	...
Ulwar ...	5,713	377	...	385	...	...
Indore ...	1,506	...	...	...	...	...
Jeypur ...	3,016	...	...	...	...	...
Bawal ...	765	...	...	...	...	...
Harphulpur ...	4,807	880	380	...	880	...
Other places ...	18,718	5,758	1,528	378	...	...
Total ...	1,45,639	18,697	17,099	3,403	759	...
Hyderabad ...	1,156	...	...	...	...	...
BERAR.						
Badnera ...	863	...	...	...	402	...
Dhamangaon ...	2,934	1,062	...	...	382	...
Malkapur ...	433	365	...	...	379	...
Khamgaon ...	2,418	...	763	...	...	...
Akola ...	3,730	1,979	3,778	882	1,911	...
Amraoti ...	15,258	3,824	8,878	4,949	4,608	2,028
Total ...	25,156	7,250	12,919	5,331	7,682	2,028
Bombay ...	374	...	1,143	...	...	...
Unspecified places	1,12,220	2,640	3,197	1,496	527	443
GRAND TOTAL ...	68,62,805	1,75,942	10,08,918	1,76,607	93,238	70,838
ABSTRACT.						
Total of Bengal ...	1,98,470	1,08,056	38,444	12,047	9,142	11,406
" " Bihar ...	22,69,317	6,69,688	5,25,206	96,698	45,438	25,865
" " Chota Nag- pur.	22,798	12,118	6,432	1,450	...	...
Total of Assam ...	247	1,006	380	...	...	...
Total of the North- Western Pro- vinces and Oudh.	26,53,270	1,09,550	1,75,243	13,642	11,482	10,150
Total of the Panjab	4,13,321	14,509	33,533	6,858	5,652	7,994
Total of Rajputana and Central India.	1,45,639	18,697	17,099	3,403	759	...
Total of Central Provinces.	10,20,742	1,72,428	1,95,317	35,777	13,561	6,957
Total of Hyderabad	1,156	...	...	...	...	...
Total of Berar ...	25,156	7,250	12,919	5,331	7,682	2,028
Total of Bombay ...	374	...	1,143	...	...	...
Total of Unspecified places.	1,12,220	2,640	3,197	1,496	527	443
Add exports from Calcutta from 1st to 30th January 1897, the details whereof are not available.	87,800	...	...	...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	39,50,605	11,75,942	10,08,913	1,76,607	93,238	70,838

**EXPORTS OF FOOD-GRAINS BY THE EASTERN BENGAL STATE
RAILWAY.**

No. 2752 Statistics.—The following statement shows the quantity of rice and other food-grains exported by the Eastern Bengal State Railway from Sealdah and Calcutta during the period from 1st January to 11th September 1897, both days inclusive, to have been 11,27,966 maunds. The destination of 11,23,915 maunds is specified. Of this quantity 8,91,954 maunds were carried to stations in Bengal Proper, and 90,996 maunds to Bihar and Chota Nagpur, 44,415 maunds to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, 90,467 maunds to places in Assam, and the rest (6,088 maunds) to other provinces.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,

The 28th September 1897.

M. FINUCANE,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

Statement showing the quantities of rice and other food-grains exported from Sealdah and Calcutta (Port Trust Railway, Chitpur and Kidderpore Docks), by the Eastern Bengal State Railway, from 1st January to 11th September 1897.

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
BENGAL.					
<i>24-Parganas.</i>					
Barrackpore ...	1,071	874	...	...	...
Shamnagar ...	5	...	...	...	...
Kankinara ...	302	...	...	...	...
Naihati ...	149	182	...	...	...
Kanchrapara ...	34	24	4	...	...
Duttapukur ...	84	...	...	...	...
Gobardanga ...	1,191	359	190	36	73
Akra Junction ...	9	...	...	...	...
Muslandpur ...	9	4	6	...	...
Mugra Hat ...	4	...	...	...	...
Guma ...	60	...	...	...	...
Budge-Budge ...	8	...	...	...	...
Dogaohhia ...	8	...	...	...	...
Habra ...	...	...	12	...	...
Baruipur ...	...	...	...	5	...
Total ...	2,934	943	212	41	73
<i>Nadia.</i>					
Chakdaha ...	97	...	142	...	...
Ranaghat ...	785	131	81	...	...
Aranghata ...	45	...	...	...	...
Bagula ...	17,323	3,058	4	...	13
Kishanganj ...	3,781	1,711	971	300	1
Banpur ...	608	148	126	...	...
Ramnagar ...	2,874	729	568	22	...
Jairampur ...	2,325	1,072	560	166	...
Chuadanga ...	17,306	5,264	1,117	9	39
Munshiganj ...	6,447	1,509	69	...	4
Alamdanga ...	35,668	11,839	2,523	...	3
Halsa ...	2,339	483	...	492	...
Poradaha ...	2,340	245	15	...	...
Jagati ...	2,853	905	21	...	...
Kushtia ...	47,278	19,967	1,582	473	465
Kumarkhali ...	20,440	18,740	774	161	773
Kokea ...	6,567	3,583	637	20	8
Mirpur ...	20,759	2,549	148	10	5
Bhairamara ...	29,622	2,962	14	...	...
Damukdia ...	7,107	13,189	3,425	342	253
Gangnapur ...	32	20	61	...	...
Madanpur ...	9	88	...	26	2
Total ...	2,26,600	88,192	12,838	2,021	1,566
<i>Jessore.</i>					
Chandpara ...	150	18	15	...	...
Bangaon ...	1,667	213	268	40	14
Gopalnagar ...	521	69	129	...	123
Benapol ...	296	268	69	...	...
Nabharan ...	634	227	129	...	...
Jhikargacha ...	7,048	1,685	1,004	31	60
Jessore ...	6,649	3,482	1,017	78	71
Rupdia ...	58	59	3	...	...
Singia ...	16,316	7,275	40	...	...
Naral ...	258	...	...	...	...
Binodpur. ...	1,056	110	...	...	...
Nohatta ...	328	77	2	...	...
Other places ...	2,529	250	...	...	...
Total ...	37,510	13,733	2,676	149	268

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
BENGAL—contd.					
<i>Khulna.</i>	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Fakir Hat ...	...	...	20	...	...
Nawapara ...	1,535	876	51	...	...
Phultala ...	346	119	180	...	...
Daulatpur ...	148	20	37	...	...
Khulna ...	3,526	5,343	419	342	...
Bagir Hat ...	15	18	...	...	...
Bhatpara ...	8	...	...	...	...
Total ...	5,578	6,376	700	342	...
<i>Rajahahi.</i>					
Malanchi ...	1,503	2,126	...	200	...
Gopalpur ...	73	260	...	...	...
Nator ...	498	1,873	1,294	184	496
Attrai ...	37	982	4,434	467	142
Raninagar ...	108	304	185	40	...
Alipur ...	14,912	3,108	...	...	...
Rampur Boalia ...	1,348	3,594	1,862	...	...
Sara ...	493	301	4	...	...
Charghat ...	...	448	...	...	...
Madhanagar ...	...	...	100	...	...
Total ...	18,972	12,996	7,879	891	638
<i>Dinajpur.</i>					
Parbatipur ...	...	358	...	...	...
Kaugan ...	6	883	400	...	...
Charkai ...	192	24	32	68	16
Phulbari ...	82	232	97	...	...
Raiganj ...	1	...	...	...	...
Dinajpur ...	1,007	3,778	2,787	...	...
Kaliaganj ...	...	140	...	...	...
Total ...	1,288	5,415	3,266	68	16
<i>Jalpaiguri.</i>					
Belakoba ...	632	150	...	...	...
Dam-Dim ...	171	...	...	...	...
Ohilahati ...	70	300	332	240	356
Haldibari ...	24,726	7,041	3,081	1,440	2,215
Jalpaiguri ...	25,961	13,032	2,609	3,061	633
Ramsai Hat ...	9,716	5	400	...	8
Chalsa Road Ghât ...	1,220	...	203	501	...
Malbazar ...	1,981	165	...	...	...
Deomoni ...	103	...	...	...	...
Mandal Ghât ...	713	520	...	135	100
Total ...	65,293	21,213	6,625	5,377	3,312
<i>Darjeeling.</i>					
Siliguri ...	5,857	887	41	975	...
Kurseong ...	4,097	14	6	400	3
Sonada ...	1,056	...	...	410	...
Ghum ...	4,465	1,175	713	...	...
Darjeeling ...	3,184	1,386	1,074	12	66
Mahanadi ...	...	...	...	1	...
Total ...	18,659	3,462	1,834	1,798	69

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNEED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
BENGAL—contd.					
<i>Rangpur.</i>	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Daroani ...	...	237	805	...	...
Rangpur ...	1,337	1,458	634	183	248
Kaunia ...	244	...	12	20	73
Badarganj ...	24	...	38	...	...
Saidpur ...	1,495	2,373	1,450	95	69
Nilphamari ...	236	505	868	142	198
Domar ...	8,097	5,191	1,359	2,393	2,054
Tista ...	392	...	...	...	...
Lalmonir Hât ...	453	...	6	...	...
Magal Hât ...	200	...	356	...	...
Kurigram ...	964	55	127	140	110
Jatrapur ...	426	34	26	...	...
Porabari ...	680	29	81	1	71
Madarganj ...	4	...	20	...	...
Kamarjani ...	1,388	36	35	...	73
Chilmari ...	248	70	20	14	25
Rowmari ...	133	...	21	...	...
Shampur ...	100	...	...	...	...
Total ...	16,411	9,988	5,358	2,988	2,921
<i>Bogra.</i>					
Panchbibi ...	...	100	150	...	...
Jaipur Hât ...	16	1,493	583	12	40
Jamerbari ...	1,859	229	416	150	350
Sultanpur ...	170	953	4,148	1,166	975
Akkelpur ...	390	1,117	1,665	220	231
Hili ...	105	987	335	36	12
Jamalganj ...	507	1,274	722	120	...
Tilakpur ...	...	108	...	...	...
Nakhila ...	...	...	...	12	...
Total ...	3,047	6,261	8,019	1,716	1,608
<i>Pabna.</i>					
Nagarbari ...	1,263	201	300	251	31
Banagram ...	85	...	...	...	...
Belkuchi ...	3,996	1,154	192	306	978
Serajganj ...	11,476	2,477	3,771	2,262	2,341
Pabna ...	4	...	...	...	...
Sthalchar ...	...	...	5	...	...
Bera ...	...	...	12	...	18
Total ...	16,824	3,832	4,280	2,819	3,368
<i>Cooch Behar.</i>					
Chaurh Hât ...	1,476	...	...	...	...
Torsa ...	28,106	...	360	20	23
Other places ...	917	...	...	...	...
Total ...	30,499	...	360	20	23
<i>Dacca.</i>					
Elashin ...	6	9	16	...	18
Narayanganj ...	1,436	104	520	1,045	1,189
Dacca ...	533	69	136	161	71
Kadirpur ...	22	28	327	213	40
Tarpasa ...	815	29	...	...	200
Kamalaghat ...	13	38	...	...	...
Bahar ...	13	...	...	...	...
Moynal ...	12	2	...	...	...
Postagola ...	513	...	...	...	...
Maniknagar ...	2	...	...	2	...
Aricha ...	...	12	...	...	...
Sabhar ...	...	...	...	127	19
Elachipur ...	...	...	...	...	6
Total ...	3,365	291	999	1,548	1,543

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
BENGAL—conold.					
<i>Mymensingh.</i>	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Gafargaon ...	16	...	...	...	...
Mymensingh ...	651	14	144	129	20
Bhairab Bazar ...	41	...	...	20	20
Bahadurabad ...	254	20	...	30	44
Hargilachar ...	336	121	22	6	26
Jagannathganj ...	1,186	25	63	1	41
Subarnakhali ...	2,559	264	102	...	100
Total ...	5,043	444	331	186	251
<i>Faridpur.</i>					
Daulatdia ...	11,346	...	...	...	...
Lallgolla ...	4,469	2,730	1,275	2,595	1,305
Pangsa ...	34,805	12,914	984	781	724
Belgachi ...	8,279	300	103	...	424
Rajbari ...	13,341	1,124	495	221	...
Pachuria ...	19,465	8,746	6,355	5,040	487
Goalundo ...	19,895	4,304	2,818	2,269	315
Faridpur ...	21	...	2	...	10
Madaripur ...	6	...	...	1	4
Haserkandi ...	4	...	...	...	...
Nuria ...	...	30	456	283	151
Kartikpur ...	61	...	14	...	...
Total ...	1,11,692	30,148	12,502	11,190	8,420
<i>Backergunge.</i>					
Pirozpur ...	...	5	...	...	...
Jhalakati ...	920	...	1,232	1,785	180
Barisal ...	249	...	40	20	...
Total ...	1,169	5	1,272	1,805	180
<i>Tippera.</i>					
Haziganj ...	20	...	...	60	20
Comilla ...	130	...	...	20	32
Chandpur ...	8	1	240	140	2
Akhaura ...	7	8	18	...	...
Nayanpur ...	...	...	...	...	8
Total ...	165	9	258	220	62
<i>Noakhali.</i>					
Noakhali ...	471	...	...	...	...
Feni ...	...	...	...	...	3
Total ...	471	...	...	...	3
<i>Chittagong.</i>					
Chittagong ...	54	284	345	136	135
<i>Burdwan.</i>					
Sitarampur ...	...	...	412	...	...
Rasulpur ...	3	...	...	...	...
Raniganj ...	428	...	...	...	...
Total ...	431	...	412	...	...
<i>Birbhum.</i>					
Bolpur ...	5	...	...	...	...
Sainthia ...	2	...	...	...	...
Total ...	7	...	...	...	...
<i>Murshidabad.</i>					
Asimganj ...	312	375	...	...	...
Jiaganj ...	20	...	...	...	...
Total ...	332	375	...	...	...
Total of Bengal ...	5,66,344	2,03,967	70,166	33,315	19,456

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTH-WES- TERN PROVIN- CES AND OUDH—contd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Fattehpur.</i>					
Bindki ...	385	...	...	...	...
<i>Cawnpur.</i>					
Cawnpur ...	7,965	...	...	...	...
<i>Etawah.</i>					
Etawah ...	2,383	...	...	...	...
<i>Mainpuri.</i>					
Shakohabad ...	875	...	...	...	...
<i>Agra.</i>					
Firozabad ...	767	...	...	...	...
<i>Muttra.</i>					
Muttra ...	379	...	...	...	...
<i>Alighur.</i>					
Hattrass ...	3,832	1,144	379	...	...
Alighur ...	375	...	...	...	...
Total ...	4,207	1,144	379	...	...
<i>Meerut.</i>					
Meerut ...	758	...	384	...	...
<i>Moradabad.</i>					
Moradabad ...	885	...	...	...	...
<i>Bareilly.</i>					
Faridpur ...	4	...	...	...	...
Aonla ...	379	...	...	...	...
Bareilly ...	1,143	...	...	81	...
Total ...	1,526	...	...	81	...
<i>Jaunpur.</i>					
Jaunpur ...	8	3	...	...	...
Jalalganj ...	6	...	...	...	...
Total ...	14	3	...	...	...
<i>Shahjehanpur.</i>					
Shahjehanpur ...	1,132	...	...	...	...
Tilhar ...	1,899	...	...	...	...
Anjhee ...	385	...	...	...	...
Total ...	3,416	...	...	...	...

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTH-WES- TERN PROVIN- CES AND OUDH—concd.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Lucknow.</i>					
Lucknow ...	1,901	374	...	...	...
Alamnagar ...	3,401	...	...	...	...
Total ...	5,302	374	...	...	...
<i>Bulandshahar.</i>					
Khurja ...	750	...	...	...	...
<i>Fyzabad.</i>					
Fyzabad ...	821	...	...	...	...
Gosainganj ...	385	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,206	...	...	...	...
<i>Hardai.</i>					
Hardai ...	373	...	...	...	...
Baghauli ...	748	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,121	...	...	...	...
<i>Rawalpindi.</i>					
Rawalpindi ...	...	...	370	...	...
Other places ...	2,255	...	...	...	...
Total of the North- Western Provin- ces.	39,449	3,012	1,373	81	...
Panjab ...	1,516	...	370	370	...
Central Provinces ...	456	1	...	1,876	1,110
Rajputana and Central India.	384	...	...	...	...
ASSAM.					
<i>Sylhet.</i>					
Fenchugunge ...	151	503	...	...	...
Sylhet ...	1,294	51	2	...	165
Badarpur ...	6,237	106	...	...	...
Balaganj ...	5,052	369	...	...	...
Karimganj ...	890	...	...	...	...
Chattak ...	3	...	...	...	...
Other places ...	836	1,070	327	...	...
Total ...	14,463	2,099	329	...	165
<i>Oachar.</i>					
Silchar ...	13,847	5,922	261	...	215
<i>Goalpara.</i>					
Dhubri ...	1,208	121	330	164	25
Goalpara ...	1,640	310	366	191	665
Total ...	2,848	431	696	355	690

STATION TO WHICH CONSIGNED.	Total from 1st January to 26th June 1897.	Total from 27th June to 31st July 1897.	Total from 1st to 28th August 1897.	Week ending 4th Septem- ber 1897.	Week ending 11th Septem- ber 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
ASSAM—<i>concd.</i>	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
<i>Kamrup.</i>					
Gauhati ...	673	3,258	2,876	3,445	2,555
<i>Darrang.</i>					
Tejpur ...	257	111	152	...	100
Mangaldai ...	18	160	...	...	1
Bishunath ...	51	...	...	...	...
Behalimukh ...	...	...	...	...	410
Total ...	326	271	152	...	511
<i>Sibsagar.</i>					
Nigriting ...	1,826	...	...	...	...
Disangmukh ...	1,676	437	190	151	...
Dekhumukh ...	3,986	609	697	248	43
Kokilamukh ...	557	372	103	...	...
Other places ...	1,576	701	10	...	...
Total ...	9,621	2,119	1,000	399	43
<i>Lakhimpur.</i>					
Dibrugarh ...	14,366	875	1,887	671	683
Palasbari ...	2	20	...	...	...
Total ...	14,368	895	1,887	671	683
<i>Nowgong.</i>					
Silghat ...	558	...	...	...	...
Other places ...	115	26	400	...	...
Total of Assam ...	56,819	15,021	7,601	4,870	4,862
Unspecified places ...	3,843	115	16	...	77
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,89,820	2,69,785	1,00,504	42,352	25,505
ABSTRACT.					
Total of Bengal ...	5,65,086	2,03,981	70,166	33,315	19,456
Ditto Bihar ...	19,636	46,189	18,811	1,480	...
Ditto Chota Nag- pur.	1,373	1,480	1,667	360	...
Ditto North-Wes- tern Pro- vinces and Oudh.	39,449	3,012	1,873	81	...
Ditto Panjab ...	1,516	...	370	370	...
Ditto Central Pro- vinces.	456	1	...	1,876	1,110
Ditto Rajputana and Central India.	384	...	...	...	...
Assam ...	58,077	15,057	7,601	4,870	4,862
Unspecified places ...	3,843	115	16	...	77
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,89,820	2,69,785	1,00,504	42,352	25,505

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE PRICES OF FOOD-GRAINS.

RETAIL prices of common rice and other food-grains in the several districts of Bengal and in the neighbouring districts of the North-Western Provinces during the first and second fortnights of August and the first fortnight of September 1897, as compared with the corresponding fortnights of August and September 1896, are published for general information. The latest available prices of common rice in Cachar and Sylhet are also published.

M. FINUCANE,

Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT, the 28th September 1897.

Quantity obtainable for a rupee.

DISTRICTS.	1897.			1896.		
	15th August.	31st August.	15th September.	15th August.	31st August.	15th September.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.
Common Rice—						
Burdwan ...	7 14	8 4	8 8	14 8	13 8	12 0
Birbhum ...	6 12	8 0	8 4	14 0	13 8	12 0
Bankura ...	9 0	10 0	11 0	18 0	16 4	16 4
Midnapore ...	8 0	8 8	8 8	15 0	15 0	16 0
Hooghly ...	7 12	8 12	7 8	10 9	10 14	10 14
Howrah ...	8 4	8 0	7 10	13 5	13 5	12 5
24 Parganas ...	7 4	7 4	7 0	11 0	11 0	11 0
Calcutta ...	7 0	7 0	7 0	12 0	12 0	12 0
Nadia ...	7 5	7 6	8 0	10 5	10 5	10 0
Murshidabad ...	7 4	8 0 (old.)	8 0 (old.)	12 5	11 7	11 7
Jessore ...	8 0	9 8 (new aus.)	10 0 (new aus.)	13 0	13 0	11 8
Khulna ...	8 0	10 10	10 0	12 12	11 0	11 0
Rajshahi ...	7 2	8 0	9 0	11 0	10 4	8 12
Dinajpur ...	6 9½	6 15 (old.)	6 0 (old.)	12 0	9 0	9 0
Jalpaiguri ...	8 0	9 12 (new aus.)	9 12 (new aus.)	11 6	9 10	10 12
Darjeeling ...	7 0	6 4½ (old.)	6 4½ (old.)	14 0	11 0	10 0
Rangpur ...	5 12	8 1 (new aus.)	8 0	11 0	11 0	10 0
Bogra ...	6 9	8 0	8 0	10 0	9 0	8 0
Pabna ...	8 13	6 6	6 6 (old.)	10 8	9 12	9 12
Dacca ...	7 8	7 8 (new aus.)	7 8	14 4	10 8	9 7
Mymensingh ...	6 8	8 10	8 10	11 12	9 8	8 12
Faridpur ...	8 0	6 14	6 14	9 0	9 0	8 0
Backergunge ...	7 2	6 8	6 8	10 0	10 8	9 0
Tippera ...	6 10	8 0	8 0	11 0	10 8	8 14
Noakhali ...	7 8	7 2	7 0 (old.)	9 0	9 0	10 2 (aus.)
Chittagong ...	8 0	9 4 (new aus.)	9 4 (new aus.)	9 3	8 0	7 4
Patna ...	8 0	9 0	9 0	10 8	10 8 (aus.)	10 8 (aus.)
Gaya ...	7 0	8 0	8 0	11 4	10 0	10 0
Shahabad ...	7 8	9 0	9 0	14 4	14 4	12 0
Saran ...	8 0	7 4	7 4	10 14	12 0	12 0
Champan ...	7 13½	8 0	8 0	11 0	12 0	11 0
Muzaffarpur ...	7 8	7 12	7 12	12 0	12 0	11 0
Darbhanga ...	7 0	8 0	8 0	13 0	12 0	12 8
Monghyr ...	7 7½	8 0	8 0	11 8	11 8	9 8
Bhagalpur ...	7 15	7 11½	7 6½	13 8	14 8	12 0
Purnea ...	7 0	7 10	8 14	11 8	11 8	12 10
Malda ...	6 12	10 2 (new aus.)	9 0	13 14	13 14	11 0
Sonthal Parganas ...	7 0	8 8	9 0	14 0	12 0	11 0
Cuttack ...	10 8	10 8	10 8	11 8	10 8	10 8
Balasore ...	10 8	12 8	11 8	13 4	12 4	11 12
Puri ...	10 0	13 0	10 0	15 12	16 12	16 6
Hasaribagh ...	6 0	12 8	8 0	16 0	16 0	16 0
Loherdaga ...	7 0	13 0	8 0	17 2	17 2	17 2
Palamanu ...	7 5	10 0	7 8	11 0	11 0	11 0
Manbhum ...	8 0	7 0	10 6	13 8	14 0	12 0
Singbhum ...	7 0	7 14	9 2	9 9	9 9	9 9
				14 0	14 0	14 0
				16 0	16 0	16 0
				14 0	14 0	14 0

DISTRICTS.	1897.			1896.		
	15th August.	31st August.	15th September.	15th August.	31st August.	15th September.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
WHEAT—	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.
Patna ...	9 4	10 0	10 0	13 0 and 14 0	12 0 and 13 0	11 0 and 11 8
Gaya ...	8 4 8 12	8 8	8 4 8 12	10 10 11 0	10 4 11 8	10 0 10 8
Shahabad ...	and 9 0	9 0	and 9 4	and 12 0	and 12 0	and 11 0
Saran ...	8 12	9 4	9 8	10 8	11 0	10 8
Champanan ...	8 10½	8 12	8 12	11 8	11 8	11 8
Muzaffarpur ...	8 8	8 12	9 0	11 0	11 0	11 0
Darbhanga ...	7 12	7 8	7 8	10 0	10 8	10 0
Monghyr ...	8 10½	8 10½	8 12½	12 8	12 0	10 8
Bhagalpur ...	8 18	8 14	8 14	12 10	11 15	10 11
Purnea ...	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 0	13 0	13 0
INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE—						
Patna ...	10 0	10 8	16 0	20 0	19 0	17 8
Gaya ...	9 4	13 4	10 4	...	...	...
Shahabad ...	10 0	10 8	11 8	...	18 0	17 0
Saran ...	9 8	10 0	12 0	18 0	16 0	17 0
Champanan ...	10 2½	10 8	13 8	16 0	17 0	17 8
Muzaffarpur ...	10 0	18 0	14 0	16 0	19 0	19 0
Darbhanga ...	8 8	14 4	14 0	17 0	18 0	20 0
Monghyr ...	9 7½	13 10½	12 9½	21 0	21 0	19 0
Bhagalpur ...	9 2	10 12	14 0	20 8	21 7	17 10
Purnea ...	10 0	13 0	13 0	20 0	20 0	16 0
Sonthal Parganas ...	8 0	8 8	21 0	20 0	19 0	29 0
Hazaribagh ...	8 0	10 0	16 0	18 0	16 0	16 0
Lohardaga ...	...	...	...	13 0	16 0	14 0
Palamanu ...	7 14	11 4	15 12	13 8	16 14	20 4
Manbhum ...	...	...	17 0	22 0	23 0	32 0
Singbhum ...	...	...	16 0	...	...	...

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

COMMON RICE—						
Jaunpur ...	7 0	7 0	7 0*	11 0	10 12	8 12
Gorakpur ...	6 12	7 8	7 8	11 11	12 2	10 12
Mirzapur ...	7 6	No return.	No return.	10 12	9 7	8 7
Benares ...	6 12	7 12	6 14	10 5	10 9	9 7½
Ghazipur ...	7 8	7 8	7 4	11 0	11 0	9 0
Ballia ...	6 4	6 6	6 8	10 0	11 0	10 8
WHEAT—						
Jaunpur ...	8 12	8 15	8 12	10 12	11 0	9 10
Gorakpur ...	7 14	8 9	8 2	10 12	10 13	9 14
Mirzapur ...	8 1	No return.	No return.	10 9	9 13	9 8
Benares ...	8 15	9 1½	9 1	10 12½	10 13½	10 4½
Ghazipur ...	8 12	9 0	8 4	10 4	10 4	9 0
Ballia ...	8 12	9 0	8 8	10 8	10 0	10 0

* Burma rice, 7 seers 12 chittaks.

ASSAM.

Prices of common rice for the week ending 9th September 1897:—

	Week of report.	Preceding week.	Corresponding week of 1896.
	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.
CACHAR—			
Janiganj Bazar ...	7 9½	7 9½	8 6½
Hailakandi ...	8 0	7 0	8 8
SYLHET—			
Kasi Bazar ...	7 11	8 0	8 6
Chhatak Bazar ...	8 0	8 0	10 0
Sunamganj ...	7 0	6 8	8 0
Habiganj ...	7 0	8 0	8 0
Karimganj ...	6 13	8 0	9 0
Maulvi Bazar ...	9 12	10 0	9 8

WEATHER AND CROP REPORT.

For the week ending the 27th September 1897.

Burdwan.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·49, Kalna ·06, Katwa 8·07, Raniganj 1·17. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aus* and jute continues. *Aman* growing well. Fodder sufficient. Common rice selling as follows:—

				Srs.	
Sadar	8 to 10	} per rupee.
Kalna	...	...	...	7 to 9
Katwa	...	...	...	8 to 11
Raniganj	...	...	...	9

Birbhum.—Rainfall at Sadar 2·44, Rampur Hât 1·37. Weather hot. Prospects favourable. *Bhadoi* reaped in Murarai; outturn estimated at 14 annas. Price of rice at Sadar 8 seers 10 chitaks and at Rampur Hât 8 seers 11 chitaks per rupee. Fodder sufficient.

Bankura.—Rainfall at Bankura ·46, Vishnupur ·51, Gangajalghati 2·08, Sonamukhi 1·13, Raipur ·26, Khatra ·48. Weather hot. Standing crops doing well. Harvesting of *aus* going on. Price of common rice at Bankura 11 seers, Vishnupur 13½ seers, Sonamukhi and Simlapal 11½ seers, Raipur 12½ seers, Khatra and Indpur 10 seers, Gangajalghati and Saltora 9 seers, Mejia 9½ seers, Taldangra 10 seers, Ohhatna 8½ seers per rupee. Price near relief-works 8½ to 12½ seers per rupee. All relief closed in Sonamukhi charge since 24th instant.

		Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Number on relief-works	...	5,625	1,959	233	7,817
Relieved from Charitable Fund—					
By money doles	...	59	104	154	317
In kitchens	...	5	38	5	48

Midnapore.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·18, Contai 3·30, Tamluk 2·07, Ghatal ·76. Agricultural prospects good. No cattle-disease. Price of common rice—

				Srs.	
Sadar	9	} per rupee.
Contai	...	...	...	8 to 12
Tamluk	...	...	...	9
Ghatal	...	...	...	9 to 10½

Hooghly.—Rainfall at Sadar ·76, Serampore ·86, Jahanabad 1·47. Weeding of winter paddy progressing. Standing crops doing well. Common rice sells from 7 to 10 seers per rupee.

Howrah.—Rainfall at Sadar ·90, Ulubaria ·68. Weather hot and cloudy with occasional rain. The rainfall has been beneficial to the standing crops. More rain wanted in Ulubaria. Transplantation of *aman* over. Prospects good. Harvesting of *aus* still continues. Fodder sufficient. Common rice sells at 7 to 9½ seers per rupee.

24-Parganas.—Rainfall at Sadar ·90, Barasat ·65, Basirhat ·38. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops favourable. Transplantation of *aman* over. Harvesting of *aus* and cutting and steeping of jute still continue. Some cases of small-pox among cattle reported from Sadar. Fodder sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

				Srs.	
Sadar	6½ to 9½	} per rupee.
Barasat	...	...	...	7
Basirhat	...	...	...	8
Diamond Harbour	...	...	...	8

Nadia.—Rainfall at Sadar ·66, Kushtia 2·00, Meherpur 3·32, Ranaghat ·73, Chuadanga ·35, Nischindipur ·70, Shikarpur 3·40. Harvesting of *aus* practically over. Prospects of *aman* and other winter crops good, though more rain needed generally. Fodder ample. Price of new rice varies from 9½ to 12 seers, and of old rice from 7½ to 7¾ seers per rupee. All relief operations finally closed.

Murshidabad.—Rainfall at Sadar 2·38, Jangipur 3·39, Kandi 3·48. Weather seasonable. Prospects of *aman* and sugarcane favourable. Fodder sufficient. No cattle-disease reported. Common rice sells at Sadar 9½ seers and at Jangipur and Kandi 9 seers per rupee.

Jessore.—Weather very changeable: days hot, nights cool. Rainfall at Jessore ·55, Jhenida 4·42, Magura 1·99, Narail ·10, Bangaon ·92. Harvesting of *aus* over; that of jute

nearly over. *Aman* doing well. Fodder sufficient. No cattle-disease. Rivers going down fast. Common rice sells as follows:—

			Srs.	
Jessore	9½ to 10	} per rupee.
Jhenida	...	...	10½
Magura	...	...	9½ to 10½
Bangaon	...	...	10 to 12
Narail	...	...	11 srs. 6½ ch. to 12 sr. 4½ ch.)

Khulna.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·15, Bagerhat 74, Satkhira 33. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aus* and jute and transplantation of *aman* almost over. Prospects of *aman* good. Common rice sells as follows:—

			Srs.	
Sadar	...	...	7½ to 8½	} per rupee.
Bagerhat	...	...	8½	
Satkhira	...	...	10½	

Fodder available. Numbers on relief—

			Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In poor-houses	...	...	46	285	517	848
Otherwise relieved	...	...	197	2,045	643	2,885
				Total	...	3,733
Relieved from Charitable Fund	...	121	1,175	404		1,700

Rajshahi.—Rainfall at Sadar 2·44, Nator 6·77, Nangaon 6·85. Prospects of all standing crops reported to be good. Harvesting of *aus* and transplantation of *aman* over. Cutting and steeping of jute going on. Condition of cattle good. Fodder ample. Common rice selling from 7½ to 10 seers per rupee.

Dinajpur.—Average rainfall 3·23. Weather hot. Cutting and steeping of jute continue. Harvesting of *bhadoi* and transplantation of winter rice nearly finished. Fodder sufficient. No cattle-disease reported. Price of rice (new *bhadoi*) 9½ seers and (old *haimanti*) 7½ seers per rupee.

Jalpaiguri.—Rainfall at Sadar 2·70, Alipur Duars 71. Weather hot and cloudy. Transplantation of *haimanti* finished. Prospects of standing crops favourable. Lands being prepared for winter crops. Fodder sufficient. Average price of common rice 8½ seers per rupee.

Darjeeling.—Rainfall at Sadar 2·59, Siliguri 9·00. Weather seasonable. Hills—*barma*, *haimanti*, *kalai*, and *bhutmas* progressing favourably. Terai—*bhadoi* being reaped; transplanting of *haimanti* going on; jute being cut; prospects good. Price of coarse rice: Hills—7 seers per rupee; Terai—9 seer per rupee. *Bhutta* (old) 14 seers and (new) 36 seers per rupee.

Rangpur.—Rainfall at Sadar 5·26; district average rainfall 4·26. Cutting of jute and transplantation of *aman* still going on. Steeping of jute progressing. Prospects good. Common rice selling at 5 to 9 seers per rupee. Fodder sufficient except in some places in the Gaibanda subdivision.

Bogra.—Rainfall at Sadar 6·81, Sherpur 6·99, Naukhila 5·03, Panchbibi 1·93. Transplantation of winter rice finished. The flood in the eastern tracts is going down. Prospects of winter rice good. Harvesting of jute going on. Price of common rice—*aman* 6 seers 10 chitacks, *aus* 7 seers 11 chitacks, and Burma rice 7 seers 11 chitacks per rupee.

Pabna.—Rainfall at Sadar 7·77, Sirajganj 5·39. Weather seasonable. *Aman* prospects excellent. Price of rice 6½ to 9 seers per rupee. Fodder sufficient. No cattle-disease.

Dacca.—Rainfall at Sadar 8·83, Manikganj 8·81, Munshiganj 1·12, Narainganj 2·00. Weather seasonable. Prospects of standing crops appear good. River gradually falling. Fodder available. No cattle-disease. Common rice 7½ seers per rupee.

Mymensingh.—Rainfall at Sadar 10·09, Netrokona 7·98, Tangail 3·17, Kishorganj 2·52, Jamalpur 8·92. Weather cloudy with occasional showers. Cutting and steeping of jute continue. *Aman* doing well. A little damage to standing crops in Jamalpur and Tangail by flood. Common rice 6½ to 8½ seers per rupee.

Faridpur.—Rainfall at Sadar 30, Goalundo 1·13, Madaripur 90. Weather seasonable. Prospects good. Rice 7½ to 8 seers per rupee.

Backergunge.—Rainfall at Sadar 2·40. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops good. Common rice sells from 6 to 9 seers per rupee.

Tippera.—Rainfall at Comilla 2·93, Brahmanbaria 2·25, Chandpur 43. Weather very hot with occasional showers. Reaping of jute still continues. Damage to paddy from

flood reported from the Brahmanbaria subdivision. Water daily subsiding elsewhere. Prospects good. Fodder sufficient. No cattle-disease. Price of common rice 8 seers per rupee.

Noakhali.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·25, Feni ·27. Harvesting of *aus* nearly finished. Transplantation of *aman* continues. Prospects good. Fodder sufficient. Price of rice (*aman*) 6½ to 7 seers and (*aus*) 8 to 9 seers per rupee.

Chittagong.—Rainfall ·26. Weather somewhat hot. Harvesting of *aus* nearly completed. Transplantation of *aman* continues. Prospects favourable. Fodder sufficient. Rice sells at 9 seers per rupee.

Patna.—Rainfall at Sadar ·42, Dinapore ·12, Bikram 1·50, Barh ·45, Bihar ·48, Hilsa ·25. Harvesting of *bhadoi* crops nearly completed. Prospects of paddy and sugarcane excellent, but rain wanted in places. Fodder sufficient. Prices improving. Common rice selling in Patna at 10 seers per rupee. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 25th September:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In poor-houses	98	86	60	244
Otherwise relieved	739	584	317	1,610
Total	...	...	...	1,884

Gaya.—Rainfall at Sadar 2·74, Jahanabad ·51, Aurangabad ·72. Paddy doing well. Price of Burma rice 9½ seers and of country rice 8½ seers per rupee.

Shahabad.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·57, Sasaram ·39, Bhabua 1·29, Buxar 1·26. Weeding of paddy is in progress. Prospects continue excellent. Sugarcane good. Prices slightly falling. Fodder sufficient. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 25th September—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In poor-houses and kitchens—				
Bhabua	92	129	169	390
Otherwise relieved—				
Bhabua	56	69	24	149
Arrah	1	2	Nil	3
Buxar	7	12	3	22
Total	...	...	...	564

Famine operations finally closed here on the 25th instant.

Saran.—Rainfall at Sadar ·56, Siwan 1·14, Gopalganj 4·83. Weather cloudy. Harvesting of *bhadoi* going on rapidly. *Aghani* prospects excellent. Average prices are—common rice 10½ seers, Burma rice 10 seers, wheat 9½ seers, barley 11 seers, *makai* 16½ seers, gram 9½ seers, *arhar* 10½ seers, *marua* 18½ seers. All Government relief operations closed in the Sadar and Siwan subdivisions. Numbers on relief in the Gopalganj subdivision on Saturday, the 25th September—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In kitchens	Nil	Nil	1,724	1,724
Otherwise relieved	259	600	73	932
Total	...	...	...	2,656

Private relief—

Hatwa—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In poor-houses	72	107	112	291
In kitchens	Nil	Nil	365	365
Otherwise relieved	34	97	47	178
Total	834

Relieved from Charitable Fund—

Sadar (sex not shown)	537
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Champaran.—Rain in irregularly distributed showers. Motihari 1·12, Bettiah 3·57, Barharwa ·91, Bagaha 1·18, Ramnagar 3·51. Harvesting of *bhadoi* general. Prospects of winter rice favourable. *Rabi* preparation begun in places. Price of new rice and maize fallen greatly: other prices almost stationary. Motihari prices are—new country rice 10½ seers, wheat 8 seers, gram 10½ seers, *rahar* 10½ seers, maize 19½ seers. Numbers on relief—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Sadar subdivision—				
In poor-houses	92	120	45	257

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Bettiah subdivision—				
Relief-workers ...	751	492	366	1,609
In poor-houses ...	79	77	79	235
In kitchens ...	53	51	75	179
		Total	...	2,280
Relieved from Charitable Fund ...	3,043	8,951	3,060	15,054

All Government relief closed since 25th, except three sections of Tribeni Canal, where little, excepting rice, is grown and harvest is unusually late.

Muzaffarpur.—Rainfall '90. Prospects continue to be hopeful. Prices are—Burma rice 9 seers, country rice 7 to 9 seers, wheat 9 seers, *makai* 15 to 20 seers, barley 13 seers, gram 9 seers, *rahar* 10 seers, *marua* 18 to 20 seers. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 25th September:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Sadar subdivision—				
In poor-houses ...	15	17	9	41
All other relief closed.				

Hajipur and Sitamarhi subdivisions.—Relief operations closed.

Darbhanga.—Rainfall at Sadar '58, Samastipur '55, Madhubani 1'47. Prospects of crops good. *Bhadoi* rice is available in the market. Harvesting of *marua* and *makai* almost completed. Transplantation of tobacco in progress, and that of *ahua* completed at Samastipur. Fodder available. Common rice sells at 9½ seers per rupee at Sadar. Price of *makai* 15 seers per rupee. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 25th September:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Sadar subdivision—				
Relief-workers ...	6	51	51	108
All other relief closed.				
Madhubani subdivision—				
In kitchens ...	11	159	454	624
No other form of relief given.				
		Total	...	732

From Charitable Fund only final doles are now being given: details not available.

Monghyr.—Rainfall at Sadar '71, Begusarai '55. Occasional clouds and rain. Prospects of winter rice and sugarcane fair. *Marua* is being harvested and land is being prepared for *rabi* sowings. No cattle-disease. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	Srs.
Monghyr ...	6½ to 8	} per rupee.
Begusarai ...	6 to 8½	
Jamui ...	8	

Bhagalpur.—Weather seasonable. Rainfall at Sadar 1'97, Banka 1'03, Madhipura '60, Supaul '60. Harvesting of *bhadoi* crops nearly over. Standing crops doing well. Fodder sufficient. Stray cases of cattle-disease reported from all the subdivisions. Prices improving. Retail prices are:—

	Common rice.	Wheat.	Kurthi.	Barley.	Gram.	Marua.	Indian-corn.
	Srs. c.	Srs. c.	Srs. c.	Srs. c.	Srs. c.	Srs. c.	Srs. c.
Sadar	8 14	8 14	10 0	11 6	9 3	...	14 8
Banka	8 12	8 14	...	...	10 0	20 0	21 4
Madhipura	8 0	...	10 0	...	...	25 0	...
Supaul	8 to 12 srs.	...	11 0	...	...	25 0	...

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relieved from Charitable Fund ...	433	1,009	416	1,858

Purnea.—Rainfall at Sadar 2'37, Kishanganj 2'07, Araria 2'35. Standing crops doing well. A few sporadic cases of cattle-disease reported from the Araria subdivision. Fodder sufficient. Price of new *bhadoi* at Sadar 9 seers, Kishanganj 9½ seers, and Araria 10 to 11 seers per rupee.

Malda.—Rainfall at Sadar 1'37, Chanchal 6'14, Gajole 3'02, Shibganj 3'79. Prospects good. Common rice selling at 9 seers per rupee.

Sonthal Parganas.—Average rainfall 2'68; highest, 4 inches, at Jamtara, and lowest, 1'08, at Godda. More rain wanted at Deoghur. Weather hot and cloudy. Prospects of *bhadoi* and winter rice good. Prices are—rice 7 to 9½ seers, and maize 14 to 40 seers per rupee.

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Jamtara (24th September)—				
Charitable Relief Fund ...	171	395	701	1,267
Private works ...	84	109	Nil	193

Cuttack.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·85, Jajpur 1·32, Kendrapara 1·98, Banki 1·72. Weather seasonable. *Beali* being reaped. Weeding of *sarad* continues. Sowing of *rabi* commenced in places. Condition of cattle good. Fodder sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

Cuttack	...	...	...	...	Srs. c.	
Jajpur	...	...	...	...	10	8
Kendrapara	...	...	...	...	11	13
Banki	...	...	...	...	14	7(new)
					11	13

} per rupee.

Numbers on relief on Saturday, 25th September—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Charitable Relief Fund	38	336	79	453
Private charity (wards' estates)	72	310	160	542

Balasore.—Rainfall at Sadar 2·67. *Beali* and jute being harvested. Weeding of *sarad* continues. Sugarcane growing well. Cattle-disease reported from a few places. Price of rice varies from 12 to 17 seers per rupee in the interior. Rice sells at 12 and 14 seers respectively at Balasore and Bhadrak respectively. Fodder sufficient.

Angul.—Rainfall at Angul 7 and Khondmals 2·06. Harvesting of *beali* commenced. *Laghu sarad* in ear. Sowing of *rabi* crops still going on. Common rice sells at 16 seers in Angul and 12 seers in Khondmals.

Puri.—Rainfall at Puri 1·62. Reaping of *beali* finished. *Sarad* being weeded. Relief works and gratuitous relief stopped.

Hazaribagh.—Rainfall at Sadar 2·84, Giridih 3·06. Weather very favourable. *Bhadoi* harvest in progress. Price of rice 7 and 7½ seers and of *makai* 12 to 20 seers per rupee. Numbers on relief on Saturday, 25th September—

Sadar subdivision—	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In poor-houses	40	40	85	165
Relieved from Charitable Fund	2	Nil	Nil	2

Lohardaga.—Rainfall 1·44. *Kurthi* and *sargunja* sowings finished. Prospects of standing crops excellent. Rice sells at Ranchi 8 seers, and in the interior from 5½ to 16 seers per rupee. Health of cattle good. Fodder sufficient. Grain in stock sufficient.

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In kitchens	12	174	732	918
Relieved from Charitable Fund	61	168	731	960

Palamanu.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·69, Balumath 1·00, Hussenabad 30, Garhwa 1·66. Weather seasonable. *Makai* and *marua* being harvested. Sugarcane and winter rice doing well. Prices are—rice 6 to 10½ seers, *gondli* 24 seers, *sawan* 28 seers, *marua* 20 seers, and *makai* 26 seers per rupee. Fodder plentiful.

Manbhum.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·30, Gobindpur 3·47. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops continue good. Early paddy being cut. Cattle-disease reported from Chandil. Fodder sufficient. Average price of common rice 8½ seers per rupee. Supply as yet sufficient.

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief-workers	9,725	4,834	666	15,225
Gratuitously relieved	63	123	59	245
In kitchens	417	543	2,327	3,287
Otherwise relieved				
(Cotton spinning and weaving)	169	1,399	Nil	1,568
Total				20,325

Singhbhum.—Rainfall at Chaibassa 84, Chakradharpur 27, Kalikapur 1·10, Ghatsila 21.

General Summary.—The rainfall during the week was generally light, but in parts of North and East Bengal it was heavy. The general agricultural prospects of the Province continue favourable. The transplantation of winter rice is nearly over and the weeding is now going on. The harvesting of early rice, jute and *bhadoi* crops is still going on. Floods are reported to have done some damage to the standing crops in Mymensingh and Tippera. The preparation of lands for the *rabi* crops is going on in some districts. In Bihar the prices of new rice, *makai* and *marua* have fallen; no important change in prices has yet taken place elsewhere. Relief-works now remain open only in Champaran, Darbhanga (108 persons only), Bankura and Manbhum. The price of grain on which the famine wage is based is in Champaran (Indian-corn) 19½ seers, in Darbhanga (Indian-corn) 15 seers, in Bankura (rice) 8½ to 12½ seers, and in Manbhum (rice) 8½ seers.

Numbers on Government relief on Saturday, the 25th September—

				Week under report.	Preceding week.
Bankura	...	...	...	7,817	9,029
Nadia	...	...	...	...	23
Khulna	...	...	...	3,733	3,831
Patna	...	...	...	1,884	1,861
Shahabad	...	...	...	564	972
Saran	...	...	...	2,656	11,353
Champaram	...	...	...	2,280	12,198
Muzaffarpur	...	...	...	41	2,270
Darbhanga	...	...	...	732	31,471
Puri	...	...	...	...	582
Hazaribagh	...	...	...	165	211
Lohardaga	...	...	...	918	1,133
Manbhum	...	...	...	20,325	17,353
Total				41,115	92,287

Numbers relieved from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund—

				Week under report.	Preceding week.
Bankura	...	...	...	365	1,318
Khulna	...	...	...	1,700	1,859
Shahabad	...	...	...	...	4,809
Saran	...	...	...	537	2,827
Champaram	...	...	...	15,054	13,984
Muzaffarpur	...	...	...	...	1,068
Darbhanga	...	...	...	...	25,434
Bhagalpur	...	...	...	1,858	2,335
Sonthal Parganas	...	...	...	1,267	1,258
Cuttack	...	...	...	453	1,567
Hazaribagh	...	...	...	2	58
Lohardaga	...	...	...	960	1,115
Total				22,196	57,632

The above totals are distributed as follows:—

	MEN.		WOMEN.		CHILDREN.		TOTAL.	
	Present week.	Next preceding week.	Present week.	Next preceding week.	Present week.	Next preceding week.	Present week.	Next preceding week.
Relief-workers ...	16,107	14,942	7,336	9,306	1,316	1,093	24,759	26,241
Dependants ...	Nil	12	Nil	Nil	Nil	26	Nil	38
In poor-houses and kitchens ...	955	2,568	1,631	5,181	6,276	19,287	8,913	27,036
Otherwise relieved ...	1,401	8,004	4,834	25,426	1,110	5,542	7,444	33,972
Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. (The sex of 537 recipients of this class of relief has not been reported) ...	3,983	8,763	13,176	34,800	5,560	13,885	31,669	57,568 (+124 sex not shown).

Private relief—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Relief works—				
Sonthal Parganas—				
Jamtara ...	84	109	Nil	193
Gratuitous relief—				
Hatwa ...	106	204	524	834
Cuttack (wards' estates) ...	72	310	160	542
Total ...				1,569, against 1,674 in the preceding week.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
The 28th September 1897.M. FINUCANE,
Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from 19th to 25th September 1897.

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours of bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
					Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1897.				Inches.	°	°	°	°	°	Inches	°	%			Inches.	
Sept.	19th	155.7	5.1	29.739	83.3	89.8	10.0	79.8	80.2	0.991	78.9	87	S by E, and S by W.	62	Nil	Partially cloudy, o.
"	20th	150.0	8.5	.779	83.8	88.4	10.2	78.2	79.4	.946	77.5	81	S W by S, S W and S.	79	0.07	Partially cloudy, p.
"	21st	153.0	9.6	.790	84.5	89.9	10.6	79.8	80.3	.979	78.6	82	S, S S E and S E by E.	79	Nil	Partially cloudy, t, a.
"	22nd	149.5	9.1	.801	84.6	89.9	10.7	79.2	80.5	.987	78.8	83	S E by E and S by E.	58	0.68	Partially cloudy, p, a.
"	23rd	152.4	9.3	.818	84.4	90.0	10.6	79.4	80.0	.966	78.2	81	S by E, E by S and E S E.	75	Nil	Partially cloudy, o, a.
"	24th	137.8	1.9	.861	80.1	86.9	8.6	78.3	78.6	.959	78.0	93	E S E and S E by E.	77	0.22	Chiefly cloudy, o, d, p, t, a.
"	25th	150.0	5.5	.863	83.6	88.4	9.9	78.5	80.1	.981	78.6	85	E S E, S W by S and W S W.	70	Nil	Partially cloudy, a.

The mean pressure of the seven days	...	...	...	...	Inches.
The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	29.807
The total number of hours of bright sunshine	...	...	...	...	Hours.
The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine	...	...	...	...	49.0
The mean temperature of the seven days	...	...	...	...	84.7
The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	83.5
The extreme variation of temperature	...	...	...	...	83.0
The maximum temperature	...	...	...	...	11.8
The highest velocity of the wind in one hour	...	...	...	...	Miles.
The mean relative humidity	...	...	...	...	9
The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	85
The total fall of rain from 19th to 25th September 1897	...	...	...	...	Inches.
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	0.97
The total fall from 1st January to 25th September 1897	...	...	...	...	2.48
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	48.86
The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph, and from observations made at 6h., 10h., 16h., and 22h.	...	...	...	...	57.75

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard, Newman's No. 88, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beekley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

o, overcast; d, drizzling rain; p, passing temporary showers; t, thunder; a, dew.

J. H. GILLILAND,

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA,
Calcutta, the 27th September 1897.

For Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India.

Results of the Barometrical and Thermometrical Observations taken at the Meteorological Office, Chowringhee, from 19th to 25th September 1897.

MONTH.	Date.	Pressure at 10 A.M. corrected and reduced to 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.						HYGROMETRY.			Rainfall, past 24 hours
			Daily mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Dry bulb at 10 A.M.	Wet bulb at 10 A.M.	Vapour tension at 10 A.M.	Dew point at 10 A.M.	Humidity at 10 A.M.	
1897.		Inches.	°		°	°	°	°	Inches.	°	%	Inches.
September ...	19th ...	29.786	86.1	91.8	11.5	80.3	88.4	83.5	1.083	81.7	80	0.02
" ...	20th ...	.884	85.4	92.0	13.2	78.8	88.1	82.5	1.037	80.3	78	Nil
" ...	21st ...	.889	86.4	92.8	12.8	80.0	88.6	81.5	.981	78.7	73	.....
" ...	22nd ...	.861	86.0	92.0	12.1	79.9	88.6	81.5	.981	78.7	73	.....
" ...	23rd ...	.872	86.4	93.0	13.2	79.8	88.6	82.5	1.030	80.2	77	0.02
" ...	24th ...	.921	88.2	86.2	6.1	80.1	82.1	79.5	.975	78.5	89	0.28
" ...	25th ...	.922	85.5	92.1	13.3	78.8	86.3	81.5	1.013	79.6	81	0.24

The mean 10 A.M. pressure of the seven days Inches. 29.862

The mean temperature of the seven days 85.6

The extreme variation of temperature 14.2

The maximum temperature 93.0

The mean 10 A.M. relative humidity of the seven days % 79

The total fall of rain from 19th to 25th September 1897 Inches. 0.56

The daily mean temperatures are the crude means of maximum and minimum temperatures.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, BENGAL,

The 27th September 1897.

C. LITTLE,

Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY.

Abstract of principal commodities carried over the Bengal Central Railway during the month of July 1897, as compared with the same month of the previous year.

STAPLES	1897.		1896.		TOTAL.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	1897.	1896.		
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Coal and Coke carried for the Public and Foreign Railways.	468	1	1,934		469	1,934		1,465
Cotton, raw		10		5	10	5	5	
Cotton, manufactured—								
Twist and yarn, European	69		139		69	139		50
Ditto, Indian								
Piece-goods, European	64		156		64	156		72
Ditto, Indian								
Drugs and Chemicals—								
Intoxicating, other than Opium	5				5		5	
Non-intoxicating—								
Cinchona bark	3		1		3	1	2	
Others								
Dyes and Tans—								
Indigo								
Myrabolams			3			3		3
Gutch	3	11	2	86	14	88		74
Turmeric								
Aniline Dyes			2			2		2
Others								
Grain and Pulse—								
Wheat	1		1		1	1		
Rice in the husk	134	3	25		137	25	112	
Do. not in the husk	1,218	74	273	19	1,292	292	1,000	
Jawar and bajra								
Gram and pulse	20	23	93	63	40	176		137
Others			5			5		5
Hides and Skins—								
Hides of cattle—								
Dressed or tanned								
Raw		41		30	41	30	11	
Skins of Sheep, &c.—								
Dressed or tanned								
Raw								
Horns								
Jute—								
Raw		951		1,029	951	1,029		48
Gunny-bags and cloth	33	1	18		33	18	15	
Lac—								
Stick								
Shell								
Leather, manufactured	3				3		3	
Liquors—								
Beer								
Spirits								
Wines	3		3		3	3		
Metals—								
Copper, unwrought								
Brass, ditto								
Copper, wrought								
Brass, ditto	6	10	11	3	16	14	2	
Iron	46	2	73		48	73		25
Others	6	12	9	2	18	11	7	
Oils—								
Kerosine	219	16	506		235	506		271
Castor								
Cocunut	11		12		11	12		1
Others	46		107		46	107		61
Oilseeds—								
Linseed		4		39	4	39		35
Rapeseed and mustard	83	29	213	17	112	170		58
Til or jough		920		426	920	426	494	
Poppy								
Earth-nuts								
Castor								
Others								
Opium								
Paper and Pasteboard	15		21		15	21		6
Provisions—								
Ghee			2			2		2
Dried fruits and nuts								
Others	49	51	39	34	100	127		27
Railway plant and rolling-stock carried for the Public and Foreign Railways—								
Locomotives, engines, and tenders, and parts thereof.								
Carriages and trucks, and parts thereof.								
Materials—								
Steel rails and fish-plates, sleepers, and keys of steel and cast-iron.								
Other sorts								
Salt	606	10	751	23	610	773		167
Saltpetre, &c.—								
Saltpetre								
Other saline substances								
Silk, raw—								
Foreign								
Indian								
Silk piece-goods—								
Foreign								
Indian—								
Muga								
Endi								

STAPLES.	1897.		1896.		TOTAL.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	1897.	1896.		
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Spices—								
Betel-nuts	3	304	10	548	208	558		249
Pepper								
Ginger	40	31	8	166	71	174		103
Chillies								
Cardamoms	3	3	8	8	6	16		10
Others	45		8		45	8	37	
Lime and lime-stone								
Sugar—								
Refined or crystallized, including sugar-candy.	18		7	35	18	102		84
Unrefined, viz., molasses and jaggery or gur, and other saccharine produce.	16	355	125	438	370	563		193
Tea—								
Foreign								
Indian	94		45		94	45	49	
Timber								
Tobacco—								
Unmanufactured	106	30	96	67	136	102		36
Manufactured—								
Cigars								
Other sorts								
Wool, raw								
Wool, manufactured—								
Piece-goods, European								
Ditto, Indian								
Shawls								
All other articles of merchandise	417	253	399	350	670	710		40
Total	2,896	2,175	2,064	2,473	7,071	8,537	1,742	2,208

A. Y. Kelson,
Auditor.

CALCUTTA, the 23rd August 1897.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 18th September 1897 on 1,702.46 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Traffic for the week	288,084	Rs. 3,19,510 7 0	Mds. 35,14,506 30	Rs. 5,76,854 3 0	Rs. 21,317 0 0	Rs. 10,17,581 9 0	98,118	143,231	239,349
per mile of railway	168 10 10	187 10 10	207 9 2	33 7 5	12 7 5	597 11 5	.....	.....	.....
previous 10½ weeks of half-year	*2,964,025	*20,24,380 0 0	*3,81,30,247 10	*73,02,817 4 0	*3,20,138 0 0	*1,05,16,329 4 0	951,201½	1,479,909½	2,431,231½
Total for 11½ weeks	3,252,119	32,43,800 7 0	4,16,44,754 0	80,39,671 8 0	2,50,340 0 0	1,15,33,910 13 0	1,047,519½	1,623,230½	2,670,550½
COMPARISON.									
for corresponding week previous year	290,528½	2,16,026 2 2	33,65,371 30	6,30,511 6 5	30,723 9 9	9,67,861 12 4	62,676	120,863	209,539
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	186 2 1	.....	370 10 4	12 2 11	568 15 4	.....	.....	.....
for corresponding 11½ weeks of previous year	3,335,040	32,41,523 9 1	3,45,85,078 30	63,25,389 9 5	2,12,041 1 10	97,78,953 4 4	941,803	1,326,402	2,268,205

Deducted number of passengers 2,234 and added Rs. 28,300 }
 Added Mds. 3,18,696 and .. 40,080 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the week ended
 Deducted .. 2,477 } 7th August 1897.

TARKESSUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 18th September 1897 on 23.23 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Traffic for the week	17,376	Rs. 3,870 2 0	Mds. 9,961 0	Rs. 486 13 0	Rs. 5 0 0	Rs. 4,391 15 0	1,133	55	1,188
per mile of railway	.....	174 1 6	.....	19 3 3	0 3 7	193 6 4	.....	.....	.....
previous 10½ weeks of half-year	*204,663	*47,608 12 0	*84,149 20	*3,631 4 0	*81 0 0	*51,531 0 0	11,643	1,046	12,689
Total for 11½ weeks	221,939	51,678 14 0	94,130 20	4,058 1 0	86 0 0	55,832 15 0	12,776	1,101	13,877
COMPARISON.									
for corresponding week previous year	15,927½	3,500 0 4	6,946 10	245 5 0	2 7 6	3,803 12 10	1,136	63	1,199
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	160 2 4	.....	19 15 2	0 1 9	171 3 3	.....	.....	.....
for corresponding 11½ weeks of previous year	221,623	53,733 6 11	51,426 30	3,615 13 0	102 9 3	57,451 13 2	13,243	618	13,860

Added number of passengers 1,036 and Rs. 289 }
 Added Mds. 230 .. 16 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the week ended
 Deducted .. 7 } 7th August 1897.

DELHI-UMBALLA-KALKA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 18th September 1897 on 160.47 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Traffic for the week	16,041	Rs. (a) 27,794 0 0	Mds. 73,575 10	Rs. 16,951 1 0	Rs. 75 0 0	Rs. 44,820 1 0	10,727	5,290	16,017
per mile of railway	.....	173 3 3	.....	105 10 3	0 7 6	279 4 11	.....	.....	.....
previous 10½ weeks of half-year	*179,089	*1,84,256 15 0	*6,72,595 10	*11,11,019 10 0	*723 0 0	*2,95,997 9 0	81,314	41,174	122,488
Total for 11½ weeks	195,040	2,12,048 15 0	7,46,170 20	1,27,970 11 0	798 0 0	3,40,817 10 0	92,041	46,464	138,505
COMPARISON.									
for corresponding week previous year	16,890½	15,448 5 1	74,481 30	10,305 12 0	70 14 6	25,765 15 7	6,646	4,302	10,948
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	96 4 4	.....	63 15 8	0 7 0	160 11 0	.....	.....	.....
for corresponding 11½ weeks of previous year	208,130½	1,61,750 10 4	7,07,987 30	87,582 7 0	615 0 7	2,49,958 1 11	77,108	35,564	112,672

The increase is due to running of several extra troop, &c., trains.
 Deducted number of passengers 875 and Rs. 1,927 }
 Added Mds. 3,634 and .. 3,084 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the week ended
 Ditto .. 13 } 7th August 1897.

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

(INCLUDING N. B., DACCA, K.-D., AND ASSAM-BEHAR SECTIONS.)

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 18th September 1897 on 817 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (including ferry).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	189,070	74,760 0 0	12,02,680 0	2,98,880 0 0	9,900 0 0	3,63,730 0 0	28,280	63,476	91,756
Or per mile of railway ...	193	92 0 0	1,472 0	386 0 0	1 0 0	450 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 10 weeks of half-year† ...	1,706,685	7,76,675 0 0	85,32,841 0	17,51,404 0 0	1,28,470 0 0	26,56,638 0 0	331,571	380,169	711,740
Total for 11 weeks ...	1,895,755	8,51,435 0 0	97,35,523 0	20,50,464 0 0	1,38,469 0 0	30,40,368 0 0	359,851	413,645	773,496
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding period of previous year ...	180,069	70,260 0 0	13,12,442 0	2,91,449 0 0	13,283 0 0	3,84,000 0 0	27,243	51,603	78,846
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	231	97 0 0	1,612 0	368 0 0	1 0 0	466 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	2,241,905	9,31,492 0 0	1,10,72,015 0	23,28,469 0 0	1,56,974 0 0	34,16,676 0 0	389,584	444,819	834,403

* Excluding steamer earnings.
† Audited up to 31st July 1897.

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 18th September 1897 on 86 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	16,800	6,170 0 0	51,200 0	3,900 0 0	80 0 0	10,210 0 0	2,250	1,602	3,852
Or per mile of railway ...	184	72 0 0	596 0	46 0 0	1 0 0	119 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 10 weeks of half-year* ...	210,324	63,527 0 0	2,89,671 0	18,943 0 0	2,243 0 0	64,513 0 0	26,815	12,283	39,098
Total for 11 weeks ...	227,124	69,697 0 0	3,40,871 0	22,003 0 0	2,323 0 0	64,723 0 0	29,065	13,875	42,940
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	19,380	6,484 0 0	40,403 0	3,856 0 0	100 0 0	10,440 0 0	2,184	1,609	3,793
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	226	75 0 0	470 0	45 0 0	1 0 0	121 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	232,004	77,589 0 0	2,69,106 0	23,741 0 0	2,477 0 0	1,02,787 0 0	26,609	13,270	39,879

* Audited up to 31st July 1897.

BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

(INCLUDES TIRHUT STATE RAILWAY.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ending 11th September 1897 on 815 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
Total traffic for the week on 815 miles open ...	103,140	40,120	2,46,070	83,410	11,800	(a) 85,330	18,540	(b) 18,473	37,013
Or per mile of railway ...	126.55	49.23	301.93	102.99	14.48	104.79	...	...	...
For previous 90 weeks of half-year ...	964,910	3,62,120	39,66,670	4,85,060	1,34,350	9,71,530	176,300	181,811	358,111
Total for 100 weeks ...	1,068,050	3,92,240	42,12,740	5,18,470	1,46,150	10,56,860	194,840	200,284	395,124
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 750 miles open ...	94,690	33,157	2,93,601	32,448	9,100	75,001	16,447	(c) 13,738	30,185
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	126.25	43.96	392.05	43.19	12.16	90.21	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	987,519	3,61,049	37,18,903	4,84,587	1,02,233	9,17,860	145,976	180,577	326,553

(a) Increase is due to pilgrim traffic.

(b) Includes 4,700 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

(c) " 752 " " "

ASSAM-BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 11th September 1897 on 238 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. c.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Traffic for the week ...	13,250	7,185 0 0	1,94,109 0	9,035 0 0	463 0 0	15,633 0 0	2,335	3,638	5,977
per mile of railway ...	55'67	29'98	815'68	33'76	2'03	65'77	9'81	15'27	25'08
Previous 9 weeks of half- (a) ...	112,167	54,961 0 0	10,86,029 0	43,824 0 0	4,414 0 0	1,03,199 0 0	19,049	27,258	46,307
Total for 10 weeks ...	125,417	62,096 0 0	12,80,738 0	51,859 0 0	4,897 0 0	1,18,853 0 0	21,384	30,893	52,277
COMPARISON.									
For corresponding week previous year ...	10,040	4,868 0 0	35,459 0	2,739 0 0	208 0 0	7,815 0 0	1,080	2,948	4,0307
per mile of railway corre- sponding week of previous year	63'14	30'81	537'48	17'25	1'31 0 0	49'15	6'35	18'54	25'39
For corresponding date of this year ...	1,07,639	53,148 0 0	10,74,112 0	36,996 0 0	3,169 0 0	91,661 0 0	14,651	29,516	44,167

(a) Includes audited figures up to week ending 31st July 1897.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of Gross Receipts of the Assam-Bengal Railway.

RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 11th SEPTEMBER 1897.			RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 12th SEPTEMBER 1896.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1st APRIL TO 11th SEPTEMBER 1897.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1st APRIL TO 12th SEPTEMBER 1896.			Total increase in 1897.	Total decrease in 1897.
Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.		
Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs. A.
15,633	65'77	159	7,815	49'15	238	3,00,248	.....	159	2,43,876	.....	1,16,372		.....

DARJERLING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate earnings for the week ending 18th September 1897 ...	Rs.	A.	P.
Corresponding period of 1896 ...	14,627	0	0
Increase ...	14,284	0	0
Receipts per mile for the week ending 18th September 1897 ...	343	0	0
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1896 ...	286	12	10
Increase ...	1280	1	8
Receipts from 1st July to 18th September 1897 ...	6	11	7
Corresponding period of 1896 ...	1,63,217	0	0
Increase ...	1,81,003	0	0
	2,215	0	0

RESOLUTION ON THE ANNUAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION FOR THE YEAR 1896-97.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT—MISCELLANEOUS.

Darjeeling, the 29th September 1897.

RESOLUTION—No. 2770.

READ—

The Annual General Administration Report of the Chota Nagpur Division for 1896-97.

Read also—

The Resolution of Government on the Administration Report of the Chota Nagpur Division for 1895-96.

MR. C. R. MARINDIN was in charge of the Division from the 1st April to the 1st July 1896, and again from the 2nd August to 9th December, Mr. Toynbee holding charge in the interval.

Mr. A. Forbes, by whom the report is submitted, assumed charge on the 9th December, and retained it for the rest of the year.

Messrs. Streatfeild, Herald and Bompas were in charge, respectively, of the Lohardaga, Hazaribagh and Singhbhum districts throughout the year. There were three changes of District Officers in the Manbhum, and two in the Palamau district during the course of the year.

2. *Tours and inspections.*—Mr. Marindin spent 31, Mr. Toynbee 31, and Mr. Forbes 35 days on tour.

Of the District Officers, Mr. Streatfeild was 122, Mr. Herald 117, and Mr. Bompas 114 days on tour. Mr. Cargill, who was in charge of the Palamau district during the hot weather and rains, spent 75 days on tour; while Mr. Renny, who was in charge of the same district during the cold weather, was absent from head-quarters only 41 days. This is to be regretted, seeing that the reports on the scarcity in his district were of a very alarmist character, which would have probably been modified had he made himself thoroughly acquainted with the actual facts by more protracted touring in the mufassal. The prescribed inspections of district offices and treasuries were made by the Commissioner and District Officers, except those of the district office of Ranchi and the treasury at Daltonganj by the Commissioner, and of the district treasury at Manbhum by the Deputy Commissioner. The extent to which Wards' and Government estates were inspected and their accounts examined by District and Subdivisional Officers has not been mentioned.

3. *Weather and crops, public health, material condition of the people.*—The total rainfall was somewhat in excess of the normal in Singhbhum and Hazaribagh, while in Lohardaga, Palamau and Manbhum there was a marked deficiency, but everywhere it was badly distributed. The ante-monsoon showers which enable the lands to be prepared for the *aus* rice and *bhadoi* crops were short in some districts and failed in others, in April and May, thus retarding the sowing and germination of these crops. In June the rainfall was excessive. In August the monsoon rains were short; they unexpectedly dwindled away in September, and in October the Hathiya rains failed altogether, thus causing failure of the winter rice crop.

As the Commissioner remarks, a more hurtful distribution of rainfall, with effects more disastrous, cannot well be imagined. The results were that the outturn of the *bhadoi* crops was about 10 annas in Palamau and 8 to 8½ annas elsewhere, that the winter rice yielded only 5 annas in Palamau, 7 annas in Manbhum, 8 annas in Hazaribagh, and about 10 annas in Singhbhum. The *rabi* crops were also contracted in area and deficient in outturn, while the flower of the *mohua* tree, which is an important source of food-supply in this Division, was damaged by severe storms of wind and rain at the most critical time, and yielded only an outturn of from 6 to 12 annas in the different districts. The opium, tobacco, jute and oilseed crops were also seriously short of the average.

In the preceding year the crops were likewise poor, being only about $\frac{1}{10}$ ths, while the year before again they were about $\frac{1}{3}$ ths of the full average. Prices of food-grains ruled unprecedentedly high in 1896-97, that of common rice

having more than doubled within the past two years, while the wages of labour showed a tendency to decrease rather than the reverse. Public health was on the whole somewhat worse than in the preceding year. The Commissioner infers from these premises that the condition of the people of this Division was worse during the year under review than in the famine year of 1874, or in any subsequent year since that time, and the Lieutenant-Governor is inclined to agree with him.

But on the other hand, the year was not altogether without some consolatory features. Though all the relief that was required was given, so that no deaths from starvation occurred, yet the State expenditure that was found to be necessary was far less than in the famine of 1874. Private trade did all, or all but all, that was required to supply the food wants of the people in these the most remote and inaccessible districts of these Provinces, and the receipts from excise, stamps and income-tax increased, while there was but little addition to the reported number of offences against person and property. If, notwithstanding the most formidable combination of adverse circumstances that can, as the Commissioner says, be imagined, the people of this Division could spend more than nine lakhs of rupees on license fees for country spirits, while the total amount of the land revenue is only half that sum, they cannot have been reduced to great extremities; and if they could pull through such a year as the present with so little help from the State, it may be reasonably hoped, as time goes on, as education spreads, and as communications are opened up and the resources of the Division are developed, that its population will have a happier future before them. It would also appear from the facts mentioned that the Division has advanced in capacity to meet calamities of season and in general prosperity during the past quarter of a century.

4. *Emigration and Immigration.*—One of the effects of the prevailing scarcity was that there was an increase in the number of registered emigrants from 15,350 in 1895-96 to 22,690 in 1896-97. The increase took place in all districts except Manbhum, from which a larger number of coolies went to the labour districts as free emigrants. Immigration was confined to coolies from Bihar and the North-Western Provinces, who came to labour in the collieries in the Gobindpur subdivision, and to coolies employed on the railway lines.

5. *Manufactures, Mines, &c.*—The chief articles of manufacture in the Division are—lac, tea, tussur silk, cloths, soapstone, bowls and plates. The year was unfavourable to the lac industry. The total outturn was 4,900 maunds, valued at Rs. 23,000, against 9,000 maunds, valued at Rs. 1,40,080 in 1895.

The weather was also unfavourable to tea. In Lohardaga, of 23 gardens at work, 22 furnished returns, which show that the outturn fell from 1,110,312 pounds in 1895 to 586,524 pounds in 1896-97.

6. *Coal-mines.*—There is a large number of coal mines in the Gobindpur subdivision. The industry received a considerable check during the year owing to the dulness of the coal market, and no less than 40 of the collieries stopped work. The output in 1896 was 1,229,985 tons, against 1,914,843 tons in the preceding year.

Dr. Saise's report on the coal-fields in Palamau shows that there is a large quantity of good useful coal fit for locomotive and steaming purposes, for brick-burning and lime-burning, available in that district at comparatively shallow depths.

7. *Trade and Commerce.*—The statistics of trade and commerce show, as might be expected, a large increase in the imports and a decrease in the exports of food-stuffs, except in Singhbhum, where the crops were comparatively good.

8. *Civil Justice.*—There was a small decrease in the number of ordinary civil suits and an increase in the number of Small Cause Court suits. The number of witnesses detained for more than two days increased from 9.9 to 10.3 per cent.

The number of cases disposed of by Munsifs was 6,328, against 6,149 in the preceding year. The number of witnesses detained for more than two days was 9.2 per cent. against 10.8 in the preceding year.

The Lieutenant-Governor regrets to observe that 6.09 per cent. of the witnesses in rent suits were detained for more than two days, against 3.7 per cent. in 1895. No explanation has been furnished.

9. *Crime.*—There was an increase in cognizable crime of 598 cases from 8,301 in 1895-96 to 8,899 in 1896-97, and of 588 cases, from 4,131 to 4,719, in non-cognizable offences. The increase is attributed partly to high prices and scarcity and partly to better reporting. It is observed, however, that the increase in cognizable crime was proportionately greater in Singhbhum, where there was no distress, than in Manbhum, where it was severe, while crime of this class actually decreased in Lohardaga. The results of sessions trials show a percentage of 72·2 convictions against 68·4 in 1895. The percentage of witnesses detained for more than two days by Stipendiary Magistrates was 5·6 against 5·08 in 1895. There is room for improvement in this matter, especially in Lohardaga and Gobindpur.

Honorary Magistrates detained only 4·5 per cent. of the witnesses brought before them for more than two days against 12·2 per cent. in the preceding year, and here again the largest ratio of detentions was in Gobindpur and Lohardaga.

10. *Land Revenue Administration.*—Though this division has an area of nearly 27,000 square miles, and a population of more than $4\frac{1}{2}$ millions, yet the total annual current land revenue demand is only four lakhs and sixteen thousand rupees, a sum which, as already remarked, is less than half the voluntary outlay of the people on the Government duty on country spirits. The land revenue yields about one-third of an anna per acre, and one-and-a-half annas per head of the population, and equals only about one-fourteenth part of the rent. If, as some authorities maintain, a permanent settlement and a light assessment of land revenue ensure the prosperity and contentment of the people, the inhabitants of Chota Nagpur should be conspicuously happy in both of these respects, but on the contrary they are in fact notoriously poorer than the population of any other part of these provinces, except perhaps Behar, and agrarian discontent is so rife in most of the districts of the division that it has recently been found necessary to pass a special Act to cope with it.

With so trifling an amount of land revenue to be realised, it is no matter for surprise that the collections are generally good, though in the year under review they fell short owing to the poor outturn of the crops. The total current collections amounted to Rs. 3,74,642 against Rs. 3,89,729 in 1895-96, and the percentage of collection to demand from 95·7 to 90·02. The percentages of collections on demand in Hazaribagh, Lohardaga and Palamau fell from 99·71, 96·44 and 83·33 to 97·89, 99·76 and 66·51, respectively.

11. *Road Cess, Certificates, &c.*—Owing to the lowness of the revenue as compared with the rents of the division, the road cess demand, current and arrear, was very nearly as high as the land revenue demand, the former being Rs. 4,22,780, and the latter Rs. 4,34,401. The road cess collections amounted to Rs. 3,42,789. The Lieutenant-Governor notices with pleasure that there was a marked falling off in the number of certificate cases instituted.

12. *Wards' and Attached Estates.*—There were 71 wards and encumbered estates under the management of Government officers, against 62 in the preceding year.

The total demand of these estates, current and arrear, was Rs. 12,83,523, and the total collections Rs. 6,52,225, or 50·6 per cent. of the demand. The collections were good in Singhbhum and Lohardaga, and, like those of land revenue, bad in Palamau. The total amount expended from funds of wards' and encumbered estates on improvements of the properties was only Rs. 10,266, or less than 1 per cent. on the demand, and than 2 per cent. on the collections.

The Lieutenant-Governor is aware that many of these estates are involved in debt, and that they cannot afford a large outlay on improvements, but His Honour would again call the attention of managers and other local officers to the fact that if it be incumbent on Government to pay off with reasonable expedition the debts of spendthrift proprietors whose estates it undertakes to manage, the duty is still more imperatively imposed on it to see that these properties are properly managed, and that a fair share of the income is expended for the improvement of the estates, and to the benefit of the tenantry and of the future proprietors.

13. *Excise, Stamps, Income-tax.*—There was an increase in the excise revenue amounting to Rs. 50,361, in spite of bad crops. The increase was shared

by all districts except Palamau, and the Commissioner has made no attempt to explain it. It is partly normal, following still larger increases of Rs. 78,105 and Rs. 70,830 in the two preceding years, and may be partly due to better settlements and more effectual prevention of smuggling, but still the facts that there was an increase and that the excise revenue is more than double the land revenue indicate, as above remarked, that the people cannot generally have been reduced to a state of extreme poverty.

There was also an increase of Rs. 16,185 in the stamp revenue, which is attributed to an increase in the number of documents executed owing to high prices and other special causes. The income-tax returns likewise show a small increase of Rs. 7,838, which is assigned to the discovery of new assesses and to the assessment of contractors and others working on the new Cuttack-Midnapore-Calcutta extension of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway.

14. *Communications*.—The earthwork of the Sini-Midnapore Railway was almost completed, and the Baroon-Palamau branch of the Mogalserai Railway was sanctioned during the year.

The Grand Trunk Road and other important roads, which are maintained by the Public Works Department, are reported to have been generally kept in fair order.

The Deputy Commissioner of Palamau complains that there is no other district in Bengal in which roads have been so neglected for want of funds; he took the opportunity of the famine to repair some roads and to open out others, but thinks that they will be of little use unless Government comes forward, after the famine is over, to help with funds for the construction of bridges. Considering that the total land revenue of his district is little more than a lakh of rupees, its claim to help from funds collected from other parts of the Province is not a very strong one.

15. *Education*.—The number of public schools in the Division fell from 2,812 to 2,674, and of pupils from 76,277 to 74,909. The decrease occurred chiefly in primary schools, especially in Lohardaga, and is attributed in that district partly to the failure of the crops and consequent "withdrawal of local support," and partly to the District Officer having "set his face against the multiplication of schools in one village and the continuance of schools in places, or on standards of education, in which they had no reasonable chance of success."

Education is very backward in this Division; only one boy in every five of a school-going age is at school; and whatever the cause of the decline in numbers during the year 1895-96 may have been, the result itself is to be deplored. The famine cannot, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, have had much to do with the matter, for the numbers of pupils increased in Palamau and Manbhum, where the distress was most severe, while they fell off in Singhbhum, where there was no distress.

Though the numbers of pupils decreased, the cost of education rose from Rs. 3,57,018 to Rs. 3,59,303.

16. *Dispensaries and Hospitals*.—The number of dispensaries maintained was 18 against 17 in the previous year, one new dispensary having been opened at his own cost by Rai Gobinda Prasad Singh Bahadur, zamindar of Ranka. The inmates of the leper asylum at Purulia, which is under the German Evangelical Lutheran Mission, are said to have increased largely owing to an influx of famine-stricken lepers.

A new zanana hospital was opened at Ranchi after the close of the year, and the numbers of out-door patients treated in the zanana hospital at Hazaribagh increased from 1,273 in 1895-96 to 1,726 in 1896-97.

17. *Local Self-Government Institutions*.—The Local Self-Government Act is not in force in the Division, but Mr. Forbes thinks that in certain matters the administration would be strengthened and improved by the introduction of it. The Municipalities and District Road Committees are reported to have generally worked well.

18. *State of Public Feeling*.—In Hazaribagh the Deputy Commissioner says the people know and care nothing of affairs beyond the boundaries of their own villages. In Lohardaga there was some bad feeling between Hindus and Muhammadans in connection with a *Bakr-Id* disturbance, but it has completely subsided. In Palamau the people, high and low, are said to be as loyal as can

be wished, while in Singhbhum the only topics in which public interest was felt were the return of Kumar Narpal Singh to his estate and the future rights of the people in the protected forests.

19. *Conduct of the Zamindars.*—In last year's report Mr. Grimley spoke highly of the conduct of the zamindars of the Division. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets that Mr. Forbes' account of them is by no means so favourable. They are, he says,—

“as a rule open-handed and loyal, but, with a few honourable exceptions characteristically indifferent to the interests of their tenants, and specially in the district of Hazaribagh and amongst the smaller landholders in Lohardaga this indifference is not infrequently a synonym for downright oppression.”

Of Lohardaga Mr. Herald writes:—

“On the whole the raiyats of this district are more ground down and oppressed by their landlords than in any of the twelve districts of which I have experience. That they submit to this is due to various reasons—natural temperament, poverty, want of combination, ignorance of any better state of existence. The typical system which prevails is to put up a village to auction among candidates for a *ticca* or temporary lease. Whilst in Government managed estates an attempt is made to secure fair dealing to the raiyats by granting the lease at a sum less than the annual rental of the village, no such restriction is observable in many of the *ticcas* granted by private zamindars.

“In Lohardaga the Maharaja of Chota Nagpur, as usual, displayed exemplary liberality in all public matters, having contributed Rs. 3,000 to the Famine Charitable Relief Fund, and also subscribed liberally towards the construction of the Ranchi Dufferin Zangana Hospital. Kumar Jagat Mohan Nath Sahi Deo, the Maharaja's brother, has also contributed liberally to the Famine Fund, but other zamindars have not as a rule risen to the occasion. The most unsatisfactory feature about the conduct of these latter is their unfair dealing with regard to land and right to land which is unhappily almost universal. One zamindar of a whole pargana is said to have sold his estate twice over to two different parties for its full value, and is now giving possession to neither, living on such payments as he is able to force out of his quondam raiyats.”

In Palamau the zamindars with one or two exceptions, came forward to assist the officers of Government in combating the scarcity and in aiding their tenants. The Deputy Commissioner writes:—

“The zamindars of Palamau, with an unfortunate exception or two, have come to the fore in a splendid manner to show both their loyalty to the Government and their deep sympathy with their suffering tenants. In January last, when it was decided on to start relief works, and rice was wanting to pay the relief workers, the zamindars named in the margin came forward on the invitation of the Commissioner of the Division, and offered to make loans to the Government out of their private stores, to be repaid at the pleasure of Government at the then existing bazar rate. The loans were made and most were repaid in cash towards the end of March when rates had risen enormously. Thus by their generosity the zamindars suffered pecuniarily, but not a note of discontent escaped them.”

In Manbhum the zamindars are reported to be apathetic in regard to both their own and their raiyats' interests. None of them is particularly mentioned for good work in connection with the famine. The same remark applies to Singhbhum.

20. In the concluding paragraphs of his report, the Commissioner gives a brief summary of famine relief operations which it is not necessary to notice here, as they will be reviewed separately, and he draws attention to the desirability of constructing the Damodar Branch Railway. This also is a subject which it would be out of place to discuss in a Resolution on the Administration Report of the year.

21. *Conclusion.*—The Lieutenant-Governor desires to thank Messrs. Marindin, Toynbee and Forbes for their careful and successful administration of the Division, and Mr. Forbes for his full but not diffuse report, from which the following extracts are published for general information.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

M. FINUCANE,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Extracts from the Annual General Administration Report of the Chota Nagpur Division for the year 1896-97.

III.—WEATHER AND CROPS.

17. In order to illustrate the general character of the weather and the effect on the crops I have had the following statement prepared, showing the actual as compared with the normal rainfall, month by month, in each district. The figures of rainfall from May to October inclusive are taken from the Appendix to the Final Report of the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture on the winter rice crop of Bengal, dated 8th December 1896, which differ slightly from those given in the *Calcutta Gazette*, and are, I presume, more correct than the latter. For the remaining months the figures are those of the *Calcutta Gazette* :—

MONTH.	Hazaribagh.		Lohardaga.		Palaman.		Manbhum.		Singbhum.		Average for the Chota Nagpur Division.	
	Actual.	Normal.	Actual.	Normal.	Actual.	Normal.	Actual.	Normal.	Actual.	Normal.	Actual.	Normal.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
April 1896	...	0'33	...	0'50	...	0'16	...	0'07	0'03	0'03	0'02	0'57
May	...	0'74	...	2'17	...	1'19	1'78	3'17	3'52	3'83	1'77	2'56
June	...	11'00	7'80	10'51	8'14	8'51	6'24	11'30	9'23	14'08	8'83	11'53
July	...	17'70	13'98	11'24	13'06	8'72	13'53	13'04	13'38	22'70	13'70	13'54
August	...	12'18	13'05	8'08	13'20	11'04	13'21	10'56	13'00	16'78	13'22	11'72
September	...	6'44	8'53	3'08	9'57	4'27	7'81	5'09	7'74	6'60	7'81	5'11
October	3'57	...	2'18	...	2'64	...	2'72	...	2'07	...
November	...	0'25	0'35	0'59	0'42	1'07	0'31	0'10	0'47	...	0'52	0'50
December	...	0'50	0'18	0'77	0'23	0'95	0'27	0'14	0'16	...	0'24	0'61
January 1897	...	0'37	0'68	0'47	0'63	0'91	0'70	0'12	0'40	0'15	0'41	0'30
February	...	2'16	0'83	2'11	0'74	1'41	0'56	0'80	0'88	2'40	0'94	1'78
March	...	2'01	0'87	1'89	1'15	1'45	0'60	...	1'08	1'73	1'13	1'77
Total for 1896-97	53'53	52'60	39'81	52'17	39'13	47'22	43'83	53'27	60'55	54'82	49'17	62'01
Total for 1895-96	45'25	53'73	51'84	54'78	31'30	45'15	43'05	50'48	46'30	55'90	43'15	51'61

18. It will be seen that the total rainfall for the year was considerably in excess of the normal in Singbhum and slightly in excess in Hazaribagh, while in Lohardaga, Palaman, and Manbhum there was a marked deficiency. Taking the Division as a whole, there was more rain than in the preceding year, and but a slight falling off from the normal. But the distribution of the rain was, as regards localities, capricious, and in respect of seasons most untimely and disastrous. The *ante*-monsoon showers in April and May, which enable the lands to be prepared for the *aus* paddy and other *bhadoi* crops, fell in less than half their usual quantity, and in some places were entirely wanting, with the consequence that sowings were everywhere seriously retarded and germination of the seed impaired. Following this, in June in all the districts (except Palaman) and in July in Hazaribagh and Singbhum, the fall was excessive, and this—detrimental, as is well known, to even healthy *bhadoi*—did more harm than good to the weakly crops. So far, however, there appeared little need of apprehension, for the heavy rain in June and July augured well for the principal crop of the year, viz., the winter rice. But in August, and in a still more marked manner in September, the monsoon unexpectedly withered away, while in October the *hateya* rains entirely failed. Such of the *bhadoi* as had survived the heavy rain of June and July now fell off from want of sustenance, while the winter rice, except on the low lands, was doomed before it came into ear. A more hurtful distribution of the rainfall, with results so disastrous, cannot well be imagined. The outturn of *bhadoi* proved best in Palaman, where the fall in June and July had been considerably less than elsewhere, the yield there being estimated at 10 annas. In the other districts the crop was only an 8 annas to an 8½ annas one. The winter rice, on the other hand, fared worse in Palaman than in the other districts—the shrinkage in the rains having commenced there in July, earlier than elsewhere—giving, in that district, only a

5 annas' outturn. In Manbhum the estimated yield was 7 annas; in Hazaribagh and Lohardaga 8 annas; while in Singhbhum alone did it reach 10 annas. The unfavourable result in Lohardaga is, according to the Deputy Commissioner, partly accounted for by a peculiar local custom among the Kols, which is thus described by Mr. Streatfeild—

"Owing to this rain (viz., the last fall, in the middle of September) having fallen before the *Karma Puja* (a Kol agricultural festival), the water was, according to local custom, allowed to run off the fields instead of being kept in. Had this rain been three days later, or had the *Karma Puja* not happened to be late owing to the doubling of the month of *Jeyt*, the water would have been preserved, with, I believe, the result that the upland crops would have been considerably better than they turned out. As it was, the crop on the high lands was a very poor one indeed, though in the low lands, which bear the heaviest crops, it was fair."

19. But the misfortunes of the cultivators did not end with the loss of their *bhadoi* and rice crops. The untimely cessation of the monsoon, and especially the absence of rain in October, left hardly any moisture in the soil for the *rabi* sowings, which were, in consequence, everywhere much contracted in area. Thus Mr. Herald estimates that in Hazaribagh they were only one-fourth of their usual extent. There was fortunately an unexpected and fairly good fall of rain towards the end of November, and this was taken full advantage of for *later* sowings; and it again was followed by another good fall between Christmas and New Year's Day, as well as by favourable showers in February and March. But these later sowings, being unseasonable, gave, as usual, but poor results, and very far from compensated for the deficiency in the original area of the regular crop. The Deputy Commissioner of Palamau states that a fair yield was obtained only from the crops sown in the beds of reservoirs from which the water had been drained off to irrigate the winter rice in the adjacent fields. In the result the estimates are—in Hazaribagh, a 10 annas' crop, in Palamau $6\frac{3}{4}$ annas, in Lohardaga and Singhbhum 6 annas, and in Manbhum only 5 annas. However, this is not, fortunately, in this Division a crop of relatively great importance, except in Palamau, the areas under it in the other districts being, comparatively speaking, small. A much more important crop, as a food staple, in the districts of this Division is the flower of the *mohwa* tree, which is gathered in March and April. This in all the districts promised to be a full crop until towards the end of March, when several severe storms of wind and rain caused a deal of damage to it, just at a critical time when the trees were coming into full bearing. In the result the estimates give a 6 annas' outturn in Palamau, 8 annas in Manbhum, and from 10 to 12 annas in the other three districts. Added to this disappointment the mango crop, which usually provides a very sensible addition to the general food-supply, has been in all the districts an absolute failure, the blossoms having been entirely destroyed by the inclement weather, mentioned above, in March. Opium, which is only grown in Hazaribagh and Palamau, fared somewhat better, the outturn being 14 annas in the former and 13 annas in the latter district, as compared with 12 annas and 13 annas in the previous year. Sugarcane, on the whole, did badly, being a three-fourths crop in Hazaribagh and Palamau and only a half crop in the other three districts. Tobacco and jute were not less unfortunate with an average 8 annas' outturn, while oilseeds did still worse with an average yield of under $6\frac{1}{2}$ annas. The lac season as noticed in paragraph 46 of this report, was also an especially poor one, both as regards outturn and prices.

Altogether the past year has been, for the rural population, about the worst experienced in this Division within the memory of the inhabitants.

IV.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

20. The past year was on the whole less healthy than its predecessor, and the total number of reported deaths from all causes was consequently much larger. There were more deaths from cholera, small-pox, and fever in almost all the districts, while in Hazaribagh and Palamau a considerable number of the deaths from the last-mentioned cause was due to fever combined

with influenza. Cholera prevailed more or less in all the districts, notably in Hazaribagh and Manbhum, and was epidemic in thanas Purulia, Raghunathpur, Barabhum, Gourangdih, Chas, Topechanchi, and Jharia. It was worst in the months of April, May, June, and July. In the other districts the cases were mostly sporadic in their nature. Cholera inoculation was for the first time tried in this Division, viz., in the district of Manbhum, where 523 persons were inoculated in the villages affected with the disease with very satisfactory results. Small-pox was rather bad in thanas Dhunwar and Kharagdiha in the Hazaribagh district, where the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Herald, advocates the introduction of the Compulsory Vaccination Act. As usual the largest number of deaths reported was due to fever, but it is believed that under this head many other diseases are reported. In Palamau a bad type of remittent fever with diarrhoea or dysentery prevailed in the town of Daltonganj during the rains.

The following table compares the number of reported deaths from the several causes during the past three years:—

DISTRICTS.	Total number of deaths reported in—			Ratio per mille in—		
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1894.	1895.	1896.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Hazaribagh ...	46,053	38,034	41,054	39.65	32.90	35.26
Lohardaga ...	36,189	28,019	35,780	32.5	23.04	31.69
Palamau ...	26,369	16,528	18,084	44.18	27.69	30.30
Manbhum ...	33,843	31,769	34,029	28.86	26.62	28.51
Singhbhum ...	14,290	12,180	13,211	26.20	22.33	24.21
Total ...	156,744	1,26,530	142,162	38.86	27.33	30.71

A portion of the increase in the number of reported deaths is probably due to better reporting. The number of reported deaths from cholera, small-pox, and fever during the past two years is shown below:—

DISTRICTS.	DEATHS IN 1895 FROM—			DEATHS IN 1896 FROM—		
	Small-pox.	Cholera.	Fever.	Small-pox.	Cholera.	Fever.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Hazaribagh ...	51	762	29,993	149	988	32,496
Lohardaga ...	3	42	16,799	29	179	21,272
Palamau ...	9	313	13,464	42	25	15,219
Manbhum ...	19	1,852	23,649	39	3,821	22,879
Singhbhum ...	2	167	9,858	23	339	10,851
Total ...	84	3,136	93,763	283	5,352	102,707

V.—MATERIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

21. The circumstances from year to year of the people in an agrarian tract of country depend necessarily upon the agricultural results. These for the past year have been described in a previous section of this report. I have attempted further to illustrate the comparative results, in respect of the food-supply, during the past and three previous years in the following table. The calculations do not pretend to any mathematical exactness. It is assumed (1) that the share of the total food-supply of each district obtained

from each crop is in proportion to the area under that crop, and (2) that the total area of cultivation in each of the four years shown in the statement was fairly constant. In regard to the latter assumption, it may be explained that the statement gives results for the calendar and not for the official year, so that the *rabi* crop shown under the year 1896, in columns 5 and 9, was the *rabi* which was cut in March and April 1896, and not the *rabi* of the official year 1896-97, referred to in paragraph 19 of this report.

Statement showing the approximate total food-supply in the districts of the Chota Nagpur Division during the years 1893—96 as compared with a year of all-round full crops.

HAZARIBAGH.

Names of food-crops.	Proportion of area under each kind of food-crop to cultivated area, in annas.				Outturn, in annas, of each food-crop.				REMARKS.
	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<i>Rabi</i> food-crops	1'3	1'3	1'3	1'3	14'0	12'0	14'3	11'3	
<i>Bhadai</i> food-crops	4'5	4'5	4'5	4'5	11'6	11'3	15'3	8'5	
Winter rice	10'2	10'2	10'2	10'2	14'0	16'0	10'0	8'0	
Approximate total food-supply as compared with a year of full crops* ...					12'5	14'3	11'0	8'4	

LOHARDAGA.

<i>Rabi</i> food-crops	1	1	1	1	7'25	7'25	10'0	8'0	
<i>Bhadai</i> food-crops	6'2	6'2	6'2	6'1	12'0	12'0	10'0	8'0	
Winter rice	9'7	9'7	9'7	9'3	14'0	16'0	10'0	8'0	
Approximate total food-supply as compared with a year of full crops* ...					12'2	14'4	10'0	8'0	

PALAMAU.

<i>Rabi</i> food-crops	4'2	4'2	2'9	2'9	12'5	12'0	12'5	8'0	
<i>Bhadai</i> food-crops	2'7	2'1	2'7	2'2	5'4	4'2	11'0	10'0	
Winter rice	9'1	9'7	9'4	7'9	20'0	19'0	10'0	8'0	
Approximate total food-supply as compared with a year of full crops* ...					15'5	16'2	11'0	7'17	

MANBHUM.

<i>Rabi</i> food-crops	3'4	3'4	3'4	1'0	8'0	8'0	12'0	12'0	
<i>Bhadai</i> food-crops	1'7	1'7	1'7	2'0	5'2	9'0	14'0	8'0	
Winter rice	10'0	10'0	10'0	12'0	11'0	16'0	10'0	7'0	
Approximate total food-supply as compared with a year of full crops* ...					9'7	12'5	10'0	7'5	

SINGHBHUM.

<i>Rabi</i> food-crops	7	7	4	5	7'5	7'0	12'0	12'5	
<i>Bhadai</i> food-crops	2'0	2'5	2'5	2'5	13'0	14'0	14'5	8'5	
Winter rice	12'2	12'5	12'1	12'0	14'0	14'5	14'0	10'0	
Approximate total food-supply as compared with a year of full crops* ...					12'5	14'0	14'0	10'0	

* The annual figures opposite to these sentences are obtained by multiplying the respective crop areas in columns 2 to 5 by the corresponding crop outturns in columns 6 to 9 and adding the results.

22. The above statement may, I think, be taken as giving a fairly correct bird's-eye view of the situation. Taking the four most affected districts, viz., Hazaribagh, Palamau, Lohardaga, and Manbhum, we find that while in the two years 1893 and 1894 the total food-supply averaged 13.53 annas of a full supply (i.e., if all the three principal crops had been full crops), in 1895 it was reduced to 10.90 annas of a full supply, and in 1896 to only 7.77 annas of that quantity. In other words, while in the two first years the total food-supply fell short of a full supply by only 15.5 per cent., the deficiency in 1895 amounted to 31.9 per cent., and was immediately followed by a still more serious deficiency of 51.4 per cent. in 1896. It needs no demonstration to show how very seriously affected the general population of the above four districts must have become by the end of the second of the last two years; and at the present moment their condition has been still further impaired by the disappointing outturn of the *rabi* and *mohwa* of 1897.

23. The year with which the present best bears comparison is the famine year 1873-74. Each year, 1873-74 and 1896-97, succeeded a year of short crops. The rainfall during the months April—October in each year compares with the normal as under:—

	APRIL.			MAY.			JUNE.			JULY.			AUGUST.			SEPTEMBER.			OCTOBER.		
	1873-74.	1896-97.	Normal.	1873-74.	1896-97.	Normal.	1873-74.	1896-97.	Normal.	1873-74.	1896-97.	Normal.	1873-74.	1896-97.	Normal.	1873-74.	1896-97.	Normal.	1873-74.	1896-97.	Normal.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	■
Hazaribagh	0.50	...	0.33	0.46	0.74	2.48	3.35	11.09	7.90	23.80	17.70	13.98	17.85	12.18	13.08	9.06	6.44	8.65	0.20	...	3.37
Lohardaga	0.50	...	0.20	1.21	1.07	2.17	2.26	10.51	6.14	17.59	11.24	15.05	13.03	8.08	13.20	12.20	3.08	9.37	0.63	...	2.56
Palamau	...	...	0.16	1.54	...	1.19	2.51	9.81	6.24	20.71	8.72	13.53	9.30	11.04	13.21	5.05	4.27	7.81	...	...	2.54
Manbhum	...	...	0.07	0.84	1.78	3.17	2.22	11.30	9.23	20.33	13.94	13.33	11.86	10.50	13.00	6.48	5.09	7.74	0.07	...	2.73
Singhbhum	1.65	0.02	0.93	2.66	3.62	3.63	3.42	14.04	8.63	11.47	22.70	13.70	10.01	16.78	13.23	5.94	6.69	7.81	0.86	...	2.97
Divisional average	0.85	0.02	0.57	1.34	1.77	2.66	2.76	11.53	8.06	18.62	14.66	13.54	13.61	11.72	13.15	7.74	5.11	8.37	0.35	...	2.63

24. It will be seen that in both years the rainfall was extremely irregular and unevenly distributed; and although, owing to the short fall in June 1873, the year 1896 would appear to have had the advantage up to the beginning of September, yet in the end, owing to the abrupt stoppage of the monsoon in the middle of that month in 1896, and to the entire absence of rain in October, the year 1896-97 fared worse on the whole than did 1873-74. The outturns of the crops during the two years compare as under:—

DISTRICTS.	Bhadoi.		Winter rice.		Rabi.	
	1873-74.	1896-97.	1873-74.	1896-97.	1873-74.	1896-97.
	2	3	4	5	6	7
Hazaribagh	As.	As.	As.	As.	As.	As.
Lohardaga	5	8.5	10.0	8.0	Not given	10.0
Palamau	11.5	8.0	12.0	8.0	...	6
Manbhum	Failed	10.0	4.5	5.0	...	6.75
Singhbhum	...	8.0	8.0	7.0	6.5	5
Divisional average	8.0	8.5	8.0	10.0	...	6

so that although the *bhadoi* was probably somewhat better in 1896-97 than in 1873-74, yet the principal crop, viz., the winter rice, was, except in Singhbhum, decidedly worse. Moreover—and this is an important matter in these districts—while in 1874 the *mohwa* crop was a bumper and the mango crop at least an average one, the former in 1897 has given, at most, a ten annas' outturn, and the latter has been a complete failure. Again, the lac business in 1873-74 was very active and the yield unusually good, while in the present year the opposite has been the case.

25. I think, therefore, that there can be little doubt that the people were, on the whole, somewhat worse off in 1896-97 than during the famine of 23 years ago, and there can also be no doubt that, owing to the scarcity in the present instance having extended to the neighbouring Tributary States and

that source of supply being consequently stopped, the distress is now being more prolonged than was then the case. At the first threatening nine months ago, prices went up to famine rates, and they have ever since, week by week, continued to rise until now, at the time of writing, rice is selling at most places at 7 to 8 seers and in some at 6 seers and under per rupee.

26. The strain is being severely felt by all, except the well-to-do classes, especially the mahajans, most of whom can afford to wait for their returns and will then reap enormous profits. Those of them who had large stocks in hand to begin with have already secured considerable gains. The landlords will not, I think, as a class suffer much, if at all, with the exception of those who are already impoverished, and whose prejudices prevent their making an endeavour to cut down expenses. Most of the others can wait for their rents, and will, in the end, get them, whilst those of them who held stocks, as many no doubt did, to begin with, will find themselves at the last with a balance to their credit. The cultivators, on the other hand, have quite come to the end of their resources. In many places, I fear, from the reports I receive, that they have eaten their seed grain; and the fact has been noticed by more than one officer that a great part of the lands which usually grow transplanted rice have this year been sown broadcast, the cultivator not having the means to pay for field-labour. The field-labourers themselves and the professional beggars are, however, the classes who have been the chief sufferers. The former, under the "Kamia" system which here obtains, are ordinarily fed throughout the year by the better-to-do cultivators and others who employ them. This year they have been deprived, in a great measure, of this support, while the beggars have realized the truth of the proverb that "Charity begins at home," and find their customary alms wanting. Skilled labourers and artisans have almost equally suffered with the "Kamias" in consequence of the diminished means of their usual employers, while a considerable number of colliery labourers have been thrown out of work owing to the falling off in the coal trade.

27. The most acute sufferers of all have been the little children of the labouring classes and the wives and young families of men who have lately emigrated to Assam. There has, I fear, in many places been great neglect of their small children by adult relations amongst the lower classes, extending not unfrequently to robbing them of the charitable doles they had received at the relief centres and turning them adrift to pick up food for themselves in the jungles. In order to check this the system of relief by cooked food, to be eaten at the kitchens, has been introduced in many places in supplement of gratuitous relief by weekly doles of uncooked rice.

28. The accounts given, under this section, by the district officers are as follows.

In Hazaribagh the *mohwa* crop was comparatively plentiful, but the outturn of the *bhadoi*, winter rice, and *rabi* crops was disappointing. The regular monsoon commenced late, and this spoiled to some extent the prospects of the *bhadoi* crop. The rainfall up to the middle of September was greatly in excess of the average, and the prospect of the *bhadoi* was further damaged thereby. The winter rice promised a bumper crop, but the insufficient rainfall in September and the total absence of rain in October and November materially injured it. The *bhadoi* did not yield more than 10 annas, while the outturn of the winter rice averaged 8 annas. The cultivation of *rabi* was very much retarded by the absence of rain in October and November. All these circumstances, coupled with the fact that the agricultural results of the previous year were not good, raised the price of food-grains to unusually high figures. In the neighbourhood of the centres of trade, such as Hazaribagh, Chatra, and Giridih, and the coal and mica mines, where wages are high, and where the non-agriculturists and the poorer classes of cultivators could find employment, the condition of the people was comparatively better, but in the rest of the district the condition of these classes of people was seriously impaired. Most of the zamindars too were in very bad circumstances. The trading and money-lending classes were the only sections of the people who could be said to have been in a prosperous condition.

29. In Lohardaga the condition of the people at the commencement of the year was distinctly good, but the partial failure of the *bhadoi* and winter rice crops unhappily told

Lohardaga.

heavily on them, though up to the close of the year there was nothing like famine in the district. Mr. Streatfeild writes:—

“Personally I have from the first held that the district would pull through without special measures, and as a matter of fact, but for the work of the local Charitable Relief Committee, we have practically done so up to date. Ordinary works under the Road Cess Committee in the east of the district attracted a large number of workers, but works at test rates, which have been started in various parts of the district, have in no case attracted any large amount of labour. In fact, of five works so started, only one has been successful, and that is a tank where women and children can work as well as men, and where the rates paid do not constitute a very rigorous test. At the same time prices are unprecedentedly high, and there can be no denying that the people are not in the same ultra-robust condition which I, coming new to the district, could not fail to notice last year. There never has been famine in this district, and a popular idea prevails that there cannot be one. Conditions have, however, been changed very much in the last few years, and until a good crop for the current year is assured, it is impossible to regard the situation without anxiety.”

Palamau.

30. As regards Palamau, Mr. Renny writes:—

“In the last year’s report Mr. Streatfeild wrote the material condition of the people was on the whole good in spite of the bad seasons. In 1896 the seasons were all bad again, and very severe distress prevailed during the closing months of the year. Under the above circumstances the condition of the people must have suffered very materially, and even if all goes well, henceforth it will take them at least two years to recover their former condition, which at the best, so far as the lower classes are concerned, is not very much to speak of.”

Manbhum.

31. In Manbhum the average outturn of the *bhadoi* was 8 annas and of the winter rice between 5 and 8 annas, while that of the *rabi* only $3\frac{1}{2}$ annas. The *mohwa* crop, which is largely consumed by the poorer classes, was also damaged by untimely rain. The condition of the people was consequently worse during the year under report than in the preceding year. During the last three months, i.e., January, February, and March, the landless classes and those of the cultivators whose lands yielded nothing were in distress, which increased and extended over the greater part of the district towards the close of the year. The people likewise suffered from a want of water-supply, as, owing to the early cessation of the monsoon rains, the tanks and other reservoirs of water remained unfilled, and much of what they contained was used in irrigating the rice-fields in October and November.

Singhbhum.

32. In Singhbhum the landless classes and those whose crops failed suffered, but the construction of the Sini-Midnapore line provided extensive work in Dhalbhum, while the large timber contracts taken by the Forest Department brought a good deal of money into the west of the district. These two operations helped the people to tide over their difficulties, and prevented distress in its acute form being felt by any of them before the close of the year.

VI.—EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

33. The following statement shows the number of emigrants recruited and registered under Act I of 1882 during the past two years in the districts of Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, Manbhum, and Singhbhum. There were no emigrants registered under the Act in the district of Palamau:—

Districts.	1895-96.	1896-97.
Hazaribagh	2,282	7,437
Lohardaga	2,422	5,704
Manbhum	10,611*	9,429
Singhbhum	35	120
Total	15,350	22,690

* These figures are for the calendar year 1896.

The large increase in the number of registered emigrants in the districts of Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, and Singhbhum is due to the prevailing scarcity in the Division. There has been a reduction in the district of Manbhum.

This is due to the fact that a larger number of coolies were sent without registration to the labour districts as free emigrants, the number of whom increased considerably during the past year as noticed below. Most of the registered emigrants from Manbhum are said to have come from other districts. Of those registered in Lohardaga, a large proportion came from Hazaribagh, Palamau, and the adjoining Native States. In Singhbhum a large number of coolies is annually recruited from pargana Dhalbhum. They are usually taken either to Purulia or Raniganj for registration. Some of those registered at Chaibassa were recruited in the Native States of Moubhanj and Keonjhar.

In Manbhum some sixty coolies were found unwilling to emigrate at the time of their registration, and were ordered to be repatriated to their homes at the cost of the contractors by whom they were brought, but Mr. Maguire writes:—

“Several of these repatriated coolies were produced again for registration after a few days, when they were found willing to proceed, and were registered. The manner in which coolies who become unwilling or are rejected at the time of registration are at present repatriated is not a sufficient guarantee of their safe arrival at their homes, and steps are being taken to remedy the defect.”

34. Besides the coolies recruited and registered under Act I of 1882, a large number of emigrants are recruited every year under the free-labour system. The exact number of free emigrants from each district cannot be ascertained, as no records are available, but from returns obtained from local contractors, it appears that 2,886 free emigrants were recruited from Hazaribagh, 1,287 from Lohardaga, 12,631 from Manbhum, and 560 from Singhbhum, against 1,770,884, 8,000, and 502, respectively, in the previous year.

35. All the coolie-dépôts and rest-houses in the districts were regularly and unexpectedly inspected by the officers concerned, and proper steps were taken to improve their sanitary condition. Proper arrangements for the treatment of the sick and for the supply of food, clothing, &c., were made in all the dépôts. The general health of the coolies was good during the year except that there was an outbreak of cholera in certain dépôts in Manbhum.

36. In Hazaribagh no emigrants were prosecuted and convicted under section 162 of Act I of 1882 for desertion after registration. There were only four cases under section 363, Indian Penal Code. In three of them the accused were acquitted for want of evidence, and in the remaining case the two accused were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for two years each.

37. In Lohardaga there were many complaints of unlawful and fraudulent recruitment, and two criminal cases brought against recruiters ended in conviction. In one case a girl was kidnapped at the time of evening from the streets of Ranchi and unlawfully confined for several days when she managed to send information to her brother. In this case three men and a woman were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment, which were confirmed on appeal. Mr. Streatfeild writes:—

“A large number of complaints no doubt come from the relatives of persons whose recruitment was perfectly regular, though it might be inconvenient to the emigrant's family, but that a terrible amount of villainy is practised, especially in connection with the recruitment of girls and young women is unfortunately beyond question. The fact that the Assam Emigration Act only reaches persons registered or licensed under it renders it impossible to touch the class of unlicensed recruiters to whom all the malpractices of the traffic are due.”

38. In Manbhum there were altogether 111 cases in which emigrants and recruiters were accused during the year. Of these, 63 were against emigrants for offences under sections 151, 152, and 162 of Act I of 1882 and the remaining 48 against recruiters for offences under sections 341, 342, 343, 346, 357, 363, 365, 368, and 379, Indian Penal Code. Of the total number of cases, 76 were tried during the year, 26 were disposed of without trial, and 9 remained pending at the close of the year. In the cases tried, 19 emigrants and 24 recruiters were convicted, and 22 emigrants and 41 recruiters acquitted. In Singhbhum 32 cases of malpractices were instituted, of which 12 cases ended in conviction.

39. In Lohardaga, as reported in previous years, many Kols, in winter, when the harvest is gathered, emigrate with their families in large parties to the districts of Burdwan, Hooghly, and the 24-Parganas to find employment, and

return home after three or four months. The number of these temporary emigrants is reported to have been very high owing to scarcity and high prices of food-grains.

IMMIGRATION.

40. In Manbhum immigration was confined to coolies from Bihar and the North-West, attracted by the collieries in the Gobindpur subdivision. The Deputy Commissioner reports that statistics of their number are not available, but that the influx was no doubt considerable owing to the prevailing scarcity. Many of them, however, had to return disappointed in consequence of many collieries having had to stop work owing to the dulness of the coal market. In Singhbhum the work on the new Cuttack-Midnapore-Calcutta extension of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway line brought in numbers of outside coolies, chiefly from Lohardaga and Nagpur. Mr. Bompas says that a certain number of people settle each year along the railway line, having come for work and finding land available for cultivation.

VII.—PRICES OF FOOD AND LABOUR.

41. From the time when the failure of the September rains made it clear that Bengal would have to face a famine, the prices of all food-grains rose steadily, and in the last fortnight of March 1897 the price of common rice, the staple food of the people of the Division, ranged from about 8 seers per rupee in Palamau to $8\frac{1}{2}$ seers in Lohardaga, $8\frac{3}{4}$ in Hazaribagh, and 9 seers 6 chitaks in Manbhum, as against an average for the above four districts of $14\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee in March 1896 and of 18 seers in March 1895. In other words, the average price has more than doubled in these four districts within the last two years. In Singhbhum, owing to its propinquity to the native State of Mourbhanj where the rice crop of the year under review was an excellent one, the price of rice had not risen beyond 10 to 13 seers per rupee by the end of the year. Since then, however, it has hardened, and ranges now from 8 to 10 seers, fluctuating about the level at which it pays to export, being always higher nearer the railway line than in the more remote parts of the district.

42. Turning to other food staples, we have the following figures for the month of March during the last three years for wheat and gram, showing the number of seers purchaseable per rupee:—

	WHEAT.						GRAM.					
	March 1895.		March 1896.		March 1897.		March 1895.		March 1896.		March 1897.	
	Seers.	Chit-aks.	Seers.	Chit-aks.	Seers.	Chit-aks.	Seers.	Chit-aks.	Seers.	Chit-aks.	Seers.	Chit-aks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Hazaribagh ...	12	5	11	5	8	9	16	5	16	...	11	2
Lohardaga ...	11	...	11	8	8	8	12	8	13	8	9	3
Palamau ...	15	8	12	15	9	$13\frac{1}{2}$	18	9	16	14	11	13
Manbhum ...	12	6	11	...	8	2	15	...	15	...	9	6
Singhbhum ...	12	...	13	6	9	12	12	...	12	...	11	...

43. In Palamau most fortunately, as this is the one district which is completely isolated and practically without means of importing, *rabi* crops are more widely grown than in any of the other districts of this Division with the consequence that although rice rose there to a higher rate than in any of the other districts, the rates for barley, wheat, and gram remained easier than elsewhere. Taking the Division as a whole, the rate for *rabi* grains in the month of March 1897 was about 30 per cent. higher than during the previous two years.

44. There was but little change in the wages of labour in most of the districts, and where there was any, the tendency was rather towards a decrease, but in the Hazaribagh town the wages of coolies and *ghuramies* fell from As. 2-3 and As. 2-6 to As. 2 and As. 2-3 per head respectively, while in Giridih superior carpenters and common blacksmiths were available at 8 annas and 5 annas respectively, against 9 annas and 6 annas in the preceding year. Similarly, the wages of ordinary coolies decreased by half-anna a head owing to excessive competition. In Manbhum also, in the areas affected by scarcity, the daily wages of coolies fell from an average of two annas and six pies per head to two annas. The dulness of the coal market was an additional cause of the fall in the Gobindpur subdivision of this district. In other parts of the Division I cannot find that there has practically been any change. The falling-off in the demand for labour generally, which necessarily accompanies a year of bad crops, has, it would appear, been counterbalanced by the rise in the price of food. Emigration, too, has been busy, and the construction of the new Cuttack-Midnapore-Calcutta extension of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway has also supplied work to the labouring classes in the eastern portion of the Division.

VIII.—MANUFACTURES AND MINES.

45. The chief articles of manufacture in this Division are lac, tea, tussar, silk, tussar cloths, and soapstone bowls and plates. Lac, catechu, sabai grass, and tussar cocoons abound in the jungles, and are largely exported. Hides are also collected all over the Division, and are exported in large numbers without being thoroughly cured.

46. Lac is produced all over the Division, but factories for the manufacture of shell and button lac exist only in Lohardaga and Manbhum. In the former there were 4 factories at work, against 11 in the preceding year, 7 having closed business owing to the heavy fall in the price of lac during the year. The total outturn was 4,900 maunds of the value of Rs. 23,000, against 9,000 maunds, valued at Rs. 1,10,080 in 1895. In Manbhum altogether 42 factories were at work during the year, but only 20 of them were properly worked. The year was very unfavourable to the lac industry, and the *baisakhi* lac was almost a total failure. There was a large falling off in the production of the raw material, and this, added to the dulness of the Calcutta market, seriously affected a number of lac factories in the districts, and about 25 per cent. are reported to have ceased work. The quantity of button and shell-lac manufactured in Manbhum during the year was 14,000 maunds, against 18,362 maunds in 1895.

47. Tea-plantations exist in Hazaribagh and Lohardaga. In the former five gardens were at work during the year, against six in 1895. In Lohardaga out of 23 gardens at work, only 22 furnished returns, which show an outturn during the past year of 586,524 lbs., against 1,110,312.5 lbs. in the previous year. The weather during the past year was not favourable to tea, and the long drought during the early part of the year caused the spring crop to be a very short one.

48. Tussar cloth is manufactured at Raghunathpur and Singhbazar in Manbhum. The Deputy Commissioner gives the following interesting account of this industry:—

“Tussar is made by a class of Hindus called *Tanti*. There are about 250 families in the district, of which about half live at the municipal town of Raghunathpur, about 24 miles from Purulia. Another important centre is Singhbazar, a village about four miles from Purulia, where there are some 30 families. The rest are scattered over the district. All the processes of the manufacture of tussar are gone through by local men and women except the rearing of the silkworms. In parts of the district, however, this is also carried on to a small scale, but the trade is mainly supplied by the neighbouring district of Singhbhum. There is an annual fair there, where cocoons are sold in large quantities. It is estimated by a well-informed *Tanti* of Raghunathpur that cocoons worth about Rs. 10,000 are yearly imported to the district from Singhbhum. Cocoons are sold in *kahans*, a *kahan* being 1,280. A *kahan* sells for Rs. 6 to Rs. 8 ordinarily. In exceptionally bad years it may rise to Rs. 10 even. A *kahan* of cocoons produces about a seer of thread. The cost of labour, which is ordinarily performed by *Tanti* women, and sometimes by *Bauri* women, is about 1 rupee for each seer of thread (yarn). Almost every substantial *Tanti* owns one or more looms. Some of the well-to-do men of Raghunathpur own three and four looms. The total number of looms in the district

may be estimated at 400. One loom regularly worked is capable of producing three pairs of *dhoties* (about 10 yards each pair) in a month. Each loom is worked by one man only as far as the process of weaving is concerned. The best *dhotie* turned out in the district is said to cost Rs. 6-4. The industry is declining by competition with machinery. The yearly outturn of tussar may be estimated at 48,000 yards, worth about Rs. 48,000. No reliable figures are available for the external trade, but probably about three-fourths of the outturn pass out of the district."

Tussar cocoons are also exported in large quantities, chiefly to Murshidabad, from the district of Hazaribagh. A certain quantity are, however, unreeled locally, the silk going to Murshidabad. Coarse cotton cloths are manufactured all over the Division by the village weavers (*Jolhas*), and are largely used by the common people. Brass and bell-metal utensils and ornaments used by the common people are manufactured at Chatra in Hazaribagh, at Lohardaga, Palkote, Ramjari and Jeria in Lohardaga, and in parts of the Chas thana and the town of Purulia in Manbhum and in parts of Singhbhum. Brass plates, called "chippis," are largely manufactured in the Lohardaga district for local use. They are also exported to a small extent to the neighbouring districts and to the Political States of Jashpur and Sirguja. Soapstone plates and bowls are manufactured in thanas Chandil and Nirsha in Manbhum and in pargana Dhalbhum in Singhbhum. The municipal town of Jhalda in Manbhum has a fair business in ironmongery. Cutlery of different descriptions are turned out there, as also an inferior kind of fowling-piece, though said to be good for all practical purposes. Similar guns are manufactured at Jherria and Katras in the same district. The sword-sticks of Jhalda have a local reputation.

49. As reported in previous years, the principal coal-mines in the Division exist in the Giridih and Gobindpur subdivisions

(b) Coal-mines.

of the Hazaribagh and Manbhum districts. In Giridih there are four collieries, three of which are managed by European agencies and one by a native firm. In the Gobindpur subdivision, where there are a large number of collieries owned both by European and native firms, the coal industry received a considerable check during the year owing to the dulness of the coal market. The Deputy Commissioner reports that the high additional freight over the Jheria line of the East Indian Railway also placed the Jheria coal-fields at a serious disadvantage in comparison with the collieries in the East Indian Railway at Raniganj, Barakar, and other adjacent places. During the year no fewer than 40 collieries stopped work, and others had their business much reduced. Coal-pits also exist in the Damodar Valley in the Sadar subdivision of Hazaribagh, principally at Ramgarh, Mandu, and along the Bokoro. The coal from these pits, which are only superficially worked, is used for brick-burning and such like purposes. The following table compares the output in tons and the number of workpeople employed in the coal-mines of Giridih and Gobindpur:—

	OUTPUT IN—			AVERAGE NUMBER OF WORK- PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN—		
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1894.	1895.	1896.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.			
Giridih ...	571,363	633,549	666,995	3,263	9,510	11,215
Gobindpur ...	128,686	1,281,294	562,990	4,822	13,246	15,892
Total ...	700,049	1,914,843	1,229,985	13,085	22,756	26,607

In the Gobindpur subdivision the output shown for 1896 was much less than that of 1895, although the average number of workpeople employed increased by 16·2 per cent. This has not been accounted for.

49A. It was mentioned in last year's report that Dr. Walter Saise had been employed in 1895 on behalf of the East Indian Railway Company in experimenting upon the coal-fields in Palamau. Dr. Saise's report has since been received, and shows that the results, although not so good as were at one time anticipated, yet establish the fact that there is a large quantity of good, useful coal fit for locomotive and steaming purposes, for brick-burning and lime-burning available at comparatively shallow depths.

50. This industry is confined to pargana Kharakdiha in the Hazaribagh district, and is gradually gaining importance. Most of these mines are situate in the Koderma Govern-

Mica mines.

ment estate, both inside and outside the Government reserve forests, the rest being scattered over other parts of the above-mentioned pargana. Forty-one more mica mines situate in the Koderma Government estate were settled during the year at an annual rental of Rs. 1,286-9-5. The current demand on account of rent of mica mines belonging to Government was Rs. 5,939-7-1½, out of which Rs. 5,790-15-1½ were realized during the year. The total output of all mica mines worked during the year, including the mines belonging to private parties, was 7,030 maunds, against 8,019 maunds in the year previous, and the total number of workmen employed in the mines 5,587, against 5,400 in 1895.

51. No copper mines were worked during the

Copper mines.

year.

52. In Lohardaga the Sonapet Prospecting Gold Mining Company have continued to carry on prospecting works at Gutuhatu. There was no gold mine at work in

Gold mines.

Singhbhum during the year, but the prospecting lease held by Messrs. Jardine, Skinner & Co. is still in force, and several cuttings have been made, though up to the present gold has not been found in payable quantities.

53. The tin mines at Norenga, in the Giridih subdivision of Hazaribagh, were not worked during the year under review.

Tin mines.

XXIII.—RAILWAYS AND OTHER PUBLIC WORKS.

134. The only railway lines in progress during the year were the Sini Midnapore Branch of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway and some sidings to collieries in the Govindpur subdivision. The earthwork of the Sini-Midnapore extension was almost completed, and a construction train was running as far as Ghatsilla by the end of the year. It is expected that the bridges will be completed next cold weather. Mr. Bompas writes:—

"This line will have a great effect on the district administration by bringing Dhalbhum closer to the head-quarters. At present it is really impossible to administer this part of the district—50 to 80 miles from Chaibassa with several unbridged rivers on the road—in a satisfactory manner."

The working of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway continued to be satisfactory and without any serious accidents during the year. The Baroon-Palamau branch of the Mughalsarai Railway has been sanctioned, and it is expected the work will be taken in hand during next cold weather.

The opening out of the Chota Nagpur Division by a continuation of this line from Daltonganj to Purulia *via* the Damooda valley, intersecting the Palamau, Hazaribagh, Lohardaga and Manbhum districts, as was recommended by Sir Steuart Bayley some years ago, should be delayed no longer. I have lately pressed this matter upon the attention of Government in this office No. 33M.R., dated 12th April 1897.

XXX.—LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

174. The Local Self-Government Act is not in force in this Division, the opinion having hitherto prevailed that the districts are not sufficiently advanced to justify such a measure. I am inclined to doubt the correctness of this view, and there can, I think, be no doubt that in certain matters the administration would be strengthened and improved by the change. For the

management of local affairs there exist at the head-quarters of each district Municipal, Road Cess, and Education Committees. There is also a branch Road Cess Committee at Giridih, and there are Municipal Committees at Chatra, Lohardaga, Jhalda, and Raghunathpur. The system by which two-thirds of the Municipal Commissioners are elected by the rate-payers and one-third appointed by the Government obtains only in the Municipalities of Hazaribagh, Chatra, Ranchi, and Purulia. In the rest of the municipalities, as well as in the District Road and Education Committees of all the districts, the members are appointed by the Government. The Chairmen of all the municipalities are also appointed by the Government.

175. Hazaribagh has a second class municipality with a population of 16,672 souls, of which 2,334 are rate-payers. The Municipal Board consists of 15 members, 10 of whom are elected by the rate-payers and 5 appointed by the Government. At the last general election, which was the fourth of its kind since 1888, when the elective principle was for the first time extended to this Municipality, the rate-payers nominated only nine Commissioners, leaving six to be appointed by the Government. During the year 14 meetings were held, the percentage of attendance being 41·3. The total income, including the balance of the previous year, amounted to Rs. 11,358, and the total expenditure to Rs. 11,139, leaving a balance of Rs. 219 at the close of the year. The town is reported to have been maintained in an excellent sanitary condition during the year.

176. The Chatra Municipality has a population of 10,782, of whom only 1,000 are rate-payers. The Municipal Board is composed of 16 members, of whom 10 are elected and 6 appointed. Twenty-three meetings were called during the year, but a quorum was obtained in only 15. The percentage of attendance was 43·1. The total income of the Municipality during the year, including the opening balance, was Rs. 5,571, of which Rs. 5,033 was expended. Of this amount, Rs. 1,248 were spent on conservancy and Rs. 412 in repairs to roads and drains. The general sanitation of this town has been much neglected, and, so far as I can judge from the official reports that have reached me, supervision appears to be entirely wanting and the administration generally thoroughly bad.

177. In the Ranchi Municipality there are 16 members, including the Chairman, of whom 10 are elected and 6 appointed by Government. The Commissioners met ten times during the year, the percentage of attendance being 48·7, against 44·0 in the previous year. The elective system is in force here, and a general election took place on 27th March last. The assessment of personal tax and latrine tax was revised during the year, resulting in a moderate increase of revenue. During the year the Municipality secured a permanent lease at an annual rent of Rs. 650 of the market-place known as the Petia Bazar, from the landlord, the Buralal of Palkote, with whom a dispute had been going on for some years past.

178. The Lohardaga Municipal Committee is composed of 11 members, all of whom are appointed by the Government. The local Munsif occupies the office of Chairman *ex-officio*. During the year 14 meetings were held, with an average attendance of 65·4 per cent. This Municipality is reported to have worked satisfactorily. Certain purely agricultural tracts were excluded from its limits during the year.

179. The Daltonganj Municipal Board is composed of ten members, including the Chairman. There were 11 meetings during the year, with an average attendance of 75·4 per cent. The non-official Commissioners are said to take little interest in its affairs. The total income of the Municipality, including the opening balance, amounted to Rs. 6,306·3·2, and the total expenditure to Rs. 4,093·10·10.

180. In Manbhum the Purulia Municipality has a population of 12,128 souls and a Committee of 19 members, including the Chairman, of whom 12 are elected by the rate-payers and 7 appointed by the Government. The Committee held 20 meetings during the year, with an average attendance of 36·58 per cent. This Municipality is reported to have been fairly well administered, and to have done useful sanitary work. During the year a non-official Vice-Chairman was appointed in the place of the former Vice Chairman, who was a Government servant.

181. The Jhalda Municipality has a population of 4,540 souls, and is composed of 9 members, of whom only 1, viz., the Rural Sub-Registrar of the place, is an official. He is the Chairman of the Municipality, and its administration devolves entirely on him. The Commissioners met nineteen times during the year with an average attendance of 5·2 per cent.

182. The administration of the Raghunathpur Municipality also depends solely on the energy of its Vice-Chairman, a pleader of the Local Munsif's Court. The Municipal Committee consists of ten members, all of whom are appointed by the Government. Eleven meetings were held during the year, the average attendance being 49·0 per cent.

183. The Chaibassa Municipality has 13 members, who met eleven times during the year, with an average attendance of 60·1 per cent. The assessment was revised during the year. The total income of the Municipality, including the opening balance, amounted to Rs. 6,983-11-3, of which Rs. 5,383-3-10 were expended during the year.

184. None of the municipalities of this Division were inspected by either the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner or the Sanitary Commissioner during the year. The municipalities of Purulia and Hazaribagh were inspected by Mr. Marindin. No serious defects of any kind came to his notice. I have since visited and walked through the municipalities at the several district head-quarters, as well as at Chatra and Lohardaga, but had no time to make any formal inspections.

185. During the year the Hazaribagh Road Cess Committee was reorganized by the fresh appointment of the members under section 113 of the Cess Act, Deputy Collector Babu Suresh Chandra Dass being re-appointed as Vice-Chairman. The Committee held five meetings during the year, all of which were well attended. The members are reported to have taken an intelligent interest in their duties.

186. The Giridih Branch Road Committee held five meetings during the year, with an average attendance of 5·6. Babu Surendra Lal Mittra, Sub-Deputy Collector, who was the Vice-Chairman, having been transferred during the year, his place has been occupied by Mr. E. Myers, one of the non-official members of the Committee.

187. The Ranchi Road Cess Committee is composed of twelve members. It held ten meetings during the year, of which nine were special and one ordinary. The attendance of both official and non-official members was fairly satisfactory, and the members are reported to have taken a reasonable amount of interest in all matters which came before them for discussion.

188. The Palamau District Road Committee is composed of 4 official and 12 non-official members. It held eleven meetings during the year, with an average attendance of 6·7.

189. Nineteen members, of whom 7 are Europeans and 12 natives, constitute the District Road Committee of Manbhum. Of these, only three are inhabitants of the district, the rest are alien pleaders or other residents of Purulia, without much local knowledge of the interior.

190. The Chaibassa Road Cess Committee consists of ten members, who held seven meetings during the year, with an average attendance of 5·28.

191. The Education Committee at Palamau held no meeting during the year; the Education Committee of Purulia held six meetings, while very few meetings were held by the Committees at Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, and Singhbhum.

XXXVII.—GENERAL REMARKS.

214. The absorbing topic during the year under report has necessarily been the question of the prevailing scarcity. The unfavourable character of the weather, the disastrous results to the crops, and the effects of the scarcity on the material condition of the people have been noticed in paragraphs 17, 18, and 19 of this report. The following is a short review of the progress of the distress and of the means taken to meet it up to the end of the official year 1896-97. The account is only a summary one, confined to main features, details being left for the special report which will be submitted after the close of the relief operations.

215. It was evident from the outset that the pinch would first come in the districts of Palamau, Hazaribagh, and Manbhum. In Singhbhum there appeared to be no need of apprehension, while inquiries in Lohardaga showed the existence of old stocks in considerable quantities, and the large exportations

* Estimated at over 62,000 maunds during the months of September to December.

of rice (by pack* bullocks) that went on until the middle of the cold weather from the marts of Chainpur and Lohardaga into the neighbouring districts of Palamau and Hazaribagh appeared to confirm this view. As regards the other three districts, the result of the inquiries directed in Government order 7 T. R., dated 3rd November 1896, was shortly as follows. In Hazaribagh it was calculated that, with a good *mohua* crop, there would possibly be just sufficient food to carry the people on until the *bhadoi* harvest of the current year, otherwise a deficiency of about one month's supply might be expected. In Manbhum the conclusions arrived at were much the same, the Deputy Commissioner calculating that supplies would hold out until the middle of July, without counting the *mohua* crop and other jungle products. From Palamau, however, the reports were very disquieting, the Deputy Commissioner estimating a deficiency of at least 13 lakhs of maunds of food-grains. The isolated position of this district, the nearest railway station (Gaya) being over 100 miles, by unmetalled road from the district head-quarters at Daltongunge added to the difficulty of the situation.

216. The conclusions come to in the case of the first four of the above-mentioned districts have, in the main, proved correct. In Singhbhum and Lohardaga the scarcity is beginning now, in the month of June, to be somewhat more felt than was at first anticipated, but there has been little or no actual distress. What there is is the result of high prices consequent upon the considerable exports of rice from each district rather than of any actual failure in the food-supply. In Hazaribagh and Manbhum, on the other hand, relief works have had to be opened in a number of places in each district and a considerable number of persons brought upon the gratuitous lists, while the local supplies have had to be largely supplemented by importations by rail, the reported quantities (excess of imports over exports) during the past few months (the only ones for which returns have been received) being as under—

			Hazaribagh.	Manbhum.
			Mds.	Mds.
January (half-month) ...	...	...	18,000	4,900
February ...	...	...	27,900	14,600
March ...	...	...	25,500	25,900
April ...	...	...	40,400	17,400
May ...	...	...	45,300	45,200
June (three weeks) ...	...	...	17,200	17,500
Total			1,69,300	1,25,500

217. It may here be noted that exports of rice from Lohardaga and Chainpur, in the Lohardaga district, after rising to about 43,000 maunds during December, suddenly fell off about the middle of January, and since then have been made in much diminished quantities as the following figures show:—

		Number of bullocks that went away laden.	Number of bullocks that had to leave empty.
*2nd half of January	...	730 + 24 carts.	1,201
February	...	1,648	794
March	...	897	1,627
April	...	325	636
May	...	512	171
June	...	95	41
Total		4,207 + 24 carts.	4,473

* I have mislaid the figures for 1st half of January.

Taking $2\frac{1}{2}$ maunds per bullock and 15 maunds per cart, the total exports during the above $5\frac{1}{2}$ months aggregate only 10,877 maunds; while the considerable number of bullocks that came each month for grain, and had to

leave again without getting it, go to show to what straits the local traders (chiefly from Palamau) must have been reduced in their search for supplies.

218. From Singhbhum exports by rail have been uninterrupted. The figures for the last 4½ months (returns for previous months not received) are as under:—

		Exports.	Imports.
		Mds.	Mds.
Second half of February	...	4,800	300
March	...	11,500	600
April	...	11,800	800
May	...	6,400	500
June	...	6,200	633

The exports were chiefly for Bihar and Upper India. The greater portion appears to have come from the Mohurbhanj Native State. The imports were chiefly made by contractors for supply to the coolies working on the Sini-Midnapore Railway line.

219. Palamau from the first has been a cause of much anxiety. In ordinary years it draws its supplies from the Ranchi plateau and the neighbouring Tributary States. It has been shown above how the first source suddenly failed in the middle of the month of January. The trade from the Tributary States was, on the other hand, entirely closed by the different Chiefs, who issued orders early in the cold weather, peremptorily forbidding the

* This action on the part of the Chiefs was supported by me and approved by Government.

exportation of food-grains from their States.* At the same time, it was evident that the petty local traders, with whom at Daltonganj and other places I had a series of interviews on the subject, had no knowledge of trade in food-supplies beyond that which they had been accustomed to carry on by pack-bullocks with the adjoining districts and States, and could not be depended upon for any material assistance in importing large supplies from further afield. I represented these matters to Government in this office No. 389T.M.R., dated 21st January last, in which I recommended exceptional treatment for Palamau, and that Government should immediately import one lakh of maunds of rice into the district. This, however, was not approved, and I therefore, after a visit to Gaya and a further discussion of the subject with the district officials and the Marwari traders of that place, proposed the grant by Government of a bounty of 8 annas per maund on all imports of "Burmah rice" to Palamau. This was allowed by orders conveyed in Government order No. 468Fam., dated 17th February, the subsidy being shortly afterwards extended to "country rice," and grants were subsequently made by Government, aggregating Rs 75,000, for advances to traders to assist them in making importations. Notwithstanding all these encouragements, in addition to the incentive of unprecedented high prices in the district itself,†

† The average price for the whole district is at present 8½ annas per rupee.

‡ The complete failure of the trade to meet the case has at last necessitated action on the part of Government, and 16,500 maunds of rice are now being imported into Palamau for relief purposes by Government.

the poor results described. The needs of the district in this regard are amply proved by the excessively high rates for rice which at present obtain there, and the importations into the adjoining district of Hazaribagh may also be taken as a fairly certain index to its requirements, as the failure of food-crops has been even more marked in Palamau than in that district during each of the two last years. In spite of all this, however, it has been a most remarkable fact that the distress has not been nearly so acutely felt in Palamau as in either Hazaribagh or Manbhum. The people appear, on the whole, to be in a

better plight at present in that district than in either of the other two; while the numbers on the relief works and the gratuitous lists have, week after week, remained at a remarkably low figure, and this notwithstanding the fact that, in view of the high prices, the rates of payment were for some time fixed at a higher level there than elsewhere. One explanation of this is the praiseworthy manner in which most of the zamindars of the district have come forward to assist their raiyats by giving them work, as noticed in paragraph 211 above; but another, and I think probably the chief reason is to be found in the large extent to which the people are accustomed to supplement their ordinary food-supply by recourse to the forest roots and fruits, with which almost all parts of the district abound.

220. The first indications of the effects of the scarcity appeared in Hazaribagh, where the large numbers of destitute travellers along the Grand Trunk Road attracted attention in the month of November. Kitchens for their relief were opened at Barhi, and subsequently at other places on that road; and in December test works were started by order of my predecessor at Koderma and other places, which did not, however, succeed in attracting much labour, and they were therefore for the time being closed. Early in January test works were opened in the Palamau district, and again early in February in Hazaribagh, as well as in Manbhum. Gratuitous relief was at the same time set on foot in all three districts. The numbers on relief at the end of each fortnight at the expense of Government or of local funds up to the end of the official year 1896-97 are shown in the following statement:—

FORTNIGHT ENDING—		ON RELIEF WORKS.				ON GRATUITOUS RELIEF.			
		Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
31st Jan. 1897 ...	Palamau ...	416	168	161	745	...	...	...	933
	Hazaribagh ...	...	...	...	...	34	9	18	61
	Manbhum ...	104	58	81	243	...	...	...	...
13th Feb. 1897 ...	Palamau ...	671	387	264	1,312	159	213	59	431
	Hazaribagh ...	1,114	99	193	1,406	29	10	24	63
	Manbhum ...	...	...	...	2,871	...	...	...	...
27th Feb. 1897 ...	Palamau ...	1,749	1,464	615	3,818	189	211	79	479
	Hazaribagh ...	741	214	181	1,136	34	18	33	85
	Manbhum ...	1,600	1,115	302	3,017	154	356	1,695	2,305
13th Mar. 1897 ...	Palamau ...	1,714	1,283	515	3,512	280	462	123	865
	Hazaribagh ...	1,285	571	405	2,261	73	42	82	197
	Manbhum ...	1,429	912	169	2,510	597	1,280	797	2,674
27th Mar. 1897 ...	Palamau ...	1,476	1,066	331	2,873	462	827	243	1,532
	Hazaribagh ...	1,354	699	565	2,618	151	110	283	544
	Manbhum ...	1,562	1,021	234	2,817	817	1,823	1,423	4,063

221. One noticeable feature in this connection is that, although the scarcity so far as can be ascertained was not less than in 1873-74, the numbers on the relief works have been much smaller than in that year. This, it may here be mentioned, has been especially the case in the months since the close of the official year. The fact seems to be that in 1874 the workers were paid at daily rates, while on the present occasion payment has been strictly by measurement.

222. In addition to the persons shown on relief works in the above statement, considerable numbers have been given employment on private works of improvement, chiefly in the shape of irrigation *bandhs* undertaken by the zamindars in the different districts with the help of loans from Government on the favourable terms offered in Government circular No. 69, dated 5th January 1897. Advances to agriculturists for the purchase of seed and cattle have also been made both from Government funds and from grants made by the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, while in Hazaribagh and Palamau a considerable number of *pardanashin* and other women, as well as distressed weavers, have been given relief from the same fund by cotton spinning and weaving. The Revd. A. Campbell has also introduced this form of relief

with much success at Pakhuria in the Gobindpur subdivision of the Manbhum district. All these matters, however, more especially concern the opening months of the current official year, and need not be noticed further here. In Lohardaga and Singhbhum no relief measures were necessary until after the close of the year under review.

223. I should also mention that in each district a local Charitable Relief Committee was formed for the purpose of collecting funds and of supervising the charitable relief operations—a self-imposed duty, which has generally been performed satisfactorily. The subscriptions promised for the purpose in each district have so far been as follows:—in Hazaribagh, Rs. 8,191 *plus* Rs. 127 monthly subscriptions; in Palamau, Rs. 6,130; in Lohardaga, Rs. 6,855; in Manbhum, Rs. 1,949; and in Singhbhum, Rs. 3,743-13.

224. The cause of this most useful branch line was pressed upon Government in this office No. 828M.R., dated 11th January last. It is equally desirable as a “protective” work against famine as for the object of opening out the Palamau coal-fields. I had at first hoped that the construction would be put in hand as a relief work during the current year, but it appears to have been ruled that, as the local works were sufficient to meet the numbers seeking relief, the undertaking should be deferred until the beginning of next year.

225. The desirability of this line was first pointed out by the Hon’ble H. H. Risley in a full and able note 15 years ago, and the project was subsequently advocated by Sir Stewart Colvin Bayley, the then Lieutenant-Governor. I again lately brought the matter to notice, and am glad to find that the proposal has been supported by the Local Government and included in the list of important lines recommended to the Government of India for sanction. The alignment proposed is from Daltonganj, the intended terminus of the Baroon-Palamau Branch Railway, to Purulia *via* the Damodar valley. The line will pass through the centre of the Chota Nagpur Division, and be of the greatest possible benefit both to trade and for administrative purposes. It will bring the divisional headquarters at Ranchi, the military station of Dorandah, and the important civil station and central jail at Hazaribagh within driving distance of the railway, instead of their being left from 70 to 80 miles away from it; it will open out a tract of country containing the Karampura and other valuable coal-fields, and rich generally in mineral wealth; and will afford an additional outlet for trade between the North-West Provinces and the sea, besides being the shortest route for the pilgrim traffic from Upper India and the shrine of Jaggernath in Orissa.

226. The necessity of connecting the head-quarters of the Palamau district with the telegraphic system of the outer world was forcibly brought to notice in connection with the arrangements that had to be made for throwing food-supplies into that district. Hitherto the quickest line of communication had been by post, once a day, to Aurangabad (59 miles distance), and thence by telegram *via* Gaya. I am glad to say that the representations made on this subject in this office Nos. 389T.M.R., dated 21st January, and 430T.M.R., dated 28th January 1897, were successful, and a flying line was shortly afterwards constructed, which has since been replaced by a permanent one.

RESOLUTION ON THE ANNUAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE PRESIDENCY DIVISION FOR THE YEAR 1896-97.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT—MISCELLANEOUS.

Calcutta, the 29th September 1897.

RESOLUTION—No. 2719.

READ—

The Annual General Administration Report of the Presidency Division for the year 1896-97.

Mr. E. V. Westmacott continued to hold charge of the Presidency Division throughout the year, and submits the Report. Mr. E. W. Collin was in charge of the 24-Parganas the whole year; but in the other districts there were changes of charge, Jessore and Khulna being each held by three officers. Eight out of fourteen Subdivisions were held by a single officer throughout the year.

2. *Tours and Inspections.*—Mr. Westmacott spent 85 days on tour, and reports that all the District and Subdivisional Officers were on tour for sufficient periods. Mr. Garrett, Collector of Nadia, and Mr. Weston, Subdivisional Officer of Meherpur, spent in camp 145 and 165 days, respectively, being largely occupied with famine relief work; this subject also engaged the attention of officers in Murshidabad, Jessore and Khulna, and all touring officers made careful enquiries into the question of food-supply. All the prescribed inspections appear to have been made, but it is not stated whether Subdivisional Officers (except in Nadia) inspected their own offices, nor whether Government Estates were inspected, except in the 24-Parganas.

3. *Weather and Crops: Material condition of the people: Public Health.*—The average rainfall was 46·15 inches, against 41·35 in 1895-96, and 57·61 in 1894-95: it was ill distributed, besides being abnormally low. The crops in the 24-Parganas were not so bad as those in the other districts of the Division, but even there they were below the average. In Nadia, the *bhadoi* (aus rice) and *rabi* crops suffered severely, and the *aman* rice crop was in some parts almost a total failure, and in all, very seriously short of the normal; and this is true, though to a less degree, of the remaining districts. In parts of the Satkhira Subdivision of Khulna, there was a total loss of the *aman* harvest, due partly to deficient rainfall and partly to an influx of salt water, which it is to be feared has permanently impaired the productive power of much of the land in this tract. Taking the Division as a whole, the average outturn of the year of winter rice is estimated by the Commissioner at 6·9 annas, against 10 annas in 1895-96 and 15 annas in 1894-95. Prices of food-grain everywhere continued extremely high, being about 50 per cent. more than those that prevailed in the previous year. In the northern portion of Nadia, in the south of Murshidabad, and in the Satkhira Subdivision of Khulna, famine was declared, and relief operations on a considerable scale were found necessary. There appears to have been some internal migration in the district of Khulna, caused probably by the deterioration of lands. That the Division should have passed through two years of seriously short harvest, without more relief from Government, speaks well for its general prosperity.

The recorded death-rate of the whole Division for 1896 was 34·2 per 1,000, against 36·2 in 1895, and 32·5 in 1894. The district of Khulna was particularly unhealthy, the death-rate being 35·8 per mille against 33·04 in 1895, and 27·3 in 1894. Owing probably to the short rainfall of the years 1895 and 1896, there was less mortality from malarial fever, and more from cholera in 1896 than in 1895, the reported deaths from fever being 196,286 against 207,767 in 1895, and from cholera 41,673, against 33,104.

4. *Manufactures, Trade and Commerce.*—Fifty-six Factories were working in the 24-Parganas, the same number as in the previous year; but they employed 67,085 operatives, against 62,047. The outturn of gunny-bags and cloth, of paper and of lac was less than in the previous year, when, however, there had

been considerable expansion. The following figures show the value of the out-put in the last three years :—

	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.
Gunny-bags and cloth ...	2,09,96,916	2,57,54,478	2,28,71,075
Paper ...	20,35,479	26,56,460	22,25,116
Lao ...	18,00,000	17,17,695	13,50,000

The outturn of cotton twist and yarn shows a steady increase in value, from Rs. 74,18,581 in 1894-95 to Rs. 76,31,970 in 1895-96 and Rs. 77,91,269 in 1896-97. The produce of indigo in Nadia, Murshidabad and Jessore is returned at 5,886 maunds, against 8,968 in 1895-96; the falling-off was due to the want of rain. The value of the silk produced in Murshidabad was Rs. 20,14,589, against Rs. 33,08,129 in 1895-96, a decrease explained by the poor outturn of the mulberry and the general depression of the industry; only 55 filatures were open, against 74 in 1895-96. There was a slight rise in the value of the produce of silk in the 24-Parganas; but the total is small, only Rs. 55,341. The depression of the other industries, which depend upon local crops, extended to that of sugar, the outturn of which is estimated at Rs. 20,97,402, against Rs. 24,27,742 in 1895-96; as in that year no statistics are furnished from Nadia. The total registered weight of traffic in the 24 principal staples carried by rail, river and canal amounted, in 1896-97, to 1,71,49,600 maunds, against 1,02,42,123 maunds in the preceding year under imports, and 72,32,408 maunds, against 94,73,077 maunds under exports. The quantity of food-grains imported into the Division by these routes was 15,44,563 maunds, mostly rice and paddy, against 8,76,519 maunds in 1895-96. The registered exports, including those carried by road, of food-grains to Calcutta, aggregated 56,13,353 maunds, against 57, 95,428 maunds in the previous year, the largest traffic being in rice (25,24,190 maunds, against 29,14,555 maunds) and gram and pulses (26,31,525 maunds, against 18,02,552 maunds). Accurate statistics of exports of food-grains to places other than Calcutta are not available.

5. *Civil Justice.*—The number of suits instituted rose from 110,749 in 1895 to 113,550 in 1896: 116,018 suits were disposed of, and 13,115 remained pending at the end of the year. The increase in litigation was distributed over all classes of suits, and over all the districts except Murshidabad: 138,878 witnesses were examined, and 8·8 per cent. were detained more than two days, a result which compares favourably with that of 1895, when a smaller number of witnesses (131,507) was examined and a larger proportion (9·8 per cent.) detained over two days.

6. *Crime: Police: Criminal Justice.*—The number of cognizable offences reported increased from 16,758 to 17,884, and of non-cognizable offences reported, from 16,906 to 17,510. In the 24-Parganas, Jessore and Khulna the increase in cognisable crime occurred chiefly in burglary and theft cases, and is attributed to the prevailing scarcity and high prices. The increase in both classes of cases occurred everywhere except in Murshidabad, where there was a decrease mainly in sanitary offences: it is not stated what proportion of the cognizable offences consisted of breaches of sanitary laws. Seven hundred and seventy-seven cases were declared false; and the proportion of cases declared to be false, in connection with which prosecutions were instituted, was still smaller than in 1896, being only 5·0 per cent. Only 15 of the 39 cases prosecuted ended in conviction. Full use was not made of the provisions of Section 560, Criminal Procedure Code, only 103 complainants being ordered to pay compensation under that Section. The police abstained from enquiry in 7·5 per cent. of the cases reported to them. The number of true cases of murder increased from 42 to 56, and in Khulna, there were 12 riots, which ended in loss of life.

Twenty-one thousand, nine hundred and seventy-two cases were disposed of by Stipendiary Magistrates, and 9,939 by Honorary Magistrates, against 19,651 and 10,048, respectively, in 1895. The number of witnesses examined in the Courts of Stipendiary Magistrates was 56,344, and in those of Honorary Magistrates, 15,456, against 55,844 and 16,295; the proportion detained over two days was 4·8 against 3·9 in the former class of Courts, and 8·2 against 9·6 in the latter. The number of Honorary Magistrates (418) was 40 less than in the previous year, and this is probably the reason why they tried fewer

cases. The Commissioner reports that their attendance is improving in regularity, and that they did useful work on the whole, especially in Khulna and Murshidabad. The percentage of police cases remanded six times or more was 4·3, against 4·9 in the previous year. It is hoped that succeeding years will see a further improvement in this respect. There were 324 re-convictions, against 284 in 1895, a result which is, no doubt, due to the improved methods of identifying old offenders.

One hundred and sixty-eight cases were tried at the Sessions, and 72·0 per cent. ended in conviction, against 68·7 per cent. in 1895.

Fines to the amount of Rs. 1,26,465 were imposed during the year, and Rs. 1,15,513 were realized. Rupees 15,319 were written off, and the balance at the end of the year stood at Rs. 19,277.

The Commissioner repeats his commendation of the work of Mr. W. T. Moore in improving the efficiency of the police in Nadia, and makes severe strictures on the condition of that force in Khulna. There was a satisfactory decrease (from 618 to 437) in the number of officers of the regular police punished departmentally, but unfortunately also a slight decrease in the number rewarded. Among the rural police, the number rewarded increased from 263 to 755, and the number punished, from 6,015 to 7,850. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees with Mr. Westmacott in regretting that so much punishment should have been found necessary and so few rewards merited. There can be no doubt that, as he writes, *chaukidars* in the hands of a good station officer are a valuable instrument for dealing with crime. Instances of excellent work done by them are reported from Nadia. Some progress has been made in Murshidabad, the only district of the Division in which *chaukidars* under Regulation XV of 1817 exist, in the work of replacing them by *chaukidars* under Act VI (B.C.) of 1870.

7. *Land-Revenue*.—The aggregate current demand of the Division on account of land revenue and road and public works and zamindari *dak* cesses was Rs. 60,36,360. The arrear demand was Rs. 3,06,397. The total collections amounted to Rs. 59,97,152, or 92·95 per cent. of the total demand. The proportion of current collections to current demand was 95·34 per cent. in the aggregate. In the case of land-revenue, the following statement shows the percentage obtained in each District and each class of Estate, as well as the standard percentage:—

		Permanently-settled Estates.	Temporarily-settled Estates.	Government Estates.
Standard percentage	...	99	95	90
24-Parganas	...	98·18	93·73	81·69
Nadia	...	99·96	95·49	75·26
Murshidabad	...	99·62	89·94	45·86
Jessore	...	99·28	86·46	69·29
Khulna	...	99·32	74·64	56·86
Calcutta	...	.....	.....	99·96

The collections showed an improvement in permanently-settled estates in Nadia, Murshidabad and Khulna generally, and some improvement also in temporarily-settled estates in the 24-Parganas, Nadia and Jessore, but there is much room for further improvement in the collection of revenue in this class of estates; the collections in estates under direct management were very poor in all the districts, except in Calcutta. The Commissioner considers this fact to be sufficiently explained by the failure of crops and the high prices. The collections, on the whole, were remarkably good.

Rupees 10,844 were spent on improvements in Government Estates (excluding that of Orphananj, where special expenditure was incurred for the improvement of the market); it does not appear how much money, if any, was spent on agricultural improvement—a subject to which particular attention was called last year. In future reports it should be stated what action has been taken in the matter of introducing agricultural improvements in Government and Wards' Estates, in accordance with the orders contained in Government Resolution No. 895T.R., dated the 9th October 1896. One thousand two hundred and twenty-eight estates, or shares of estates, became liable to sale in default of payment of land-revenue, and 101 were actually sold.

There was a large increase in the number of certificates filed during the year (12,237 against 7,328 in 1895-96), the reason of which is not explained, and as many as 4,458 of these cases remained pending at the end of the year.

8. *Wards' and Trust Estates.*—There were four Estates under the management of the Court of Wards; besides one, of which charge was taken towards the close of the year, and for which no figures are given, and the Sayadpur and Chanchra Trust Estates. The Jaynagar Estate, in the 24 Parganas, was released during the year. The current demand on account of rent and cesses of the six Estates was Rs. 8,71,670; the arrear demand was Rs. 10,39,003; and the total collections amounted to Rs. 9,15,874, or 47·9 per cent. of the total demand. It is satisfactory that the balance outstanding in the accounts of the Kassimbazar Estate in Murshidabad and Tippera has been reduced by Rs. 96,318. The amount of arrears, however, is still large; but the collections in the year under review were better than they have been since the Court of Wards assumed charge, owing to the facts that the crops were not so bad in Tippera as elsewhere, and that the cultivators received very high prices for their surplus produce. Rupees 52,762 were spent on improvements in this Estate, Rs. 15,730 in the Bhawanipur Estate, but nothing was spent on this account in the Sayadpur Trust Estate, the management of which is unfavourably commented on by the Commissioner. The attention of local officers is again directed to the necessity of striking off irrecoverable balances and spending more money on agricultural and sanitary improvements. The year under review was not a favourable one for incurring a large outlay on improvements, but the Lieutenant-Governor trusts that the subject will not be lost sight of in the present and future years.

9. *Excise: Stamps: Income-tax.*—The excise revenue rose from Rs. 38,42,406 to Rs. 38,78,369; the increase was almost entirely in Calcutta, which yields the bulk of this part of the revenue, and was mostly due to the larger consumption of country spirit, the revenue from which rose from Rs. 16,30,812 to Rs. 17,45,949. In the districts of Nadia, Khulna, Jessore, the 24-Parganas and Murshidabad, the consumption of country spirits fell considerably, owing to the prevailing agricultural depression. Mr. Westmacott considers that the high rates at which country spirits are taxed in his Division lead to smuggling. The revenue derived from rum declined by Rs. 47,952, and that from opium, by Rs. 17,608. The decline in the opium trade is said to be due to the vigorous measures taken to stop the illicit transport of opium to Burma. The amount of salt consumed in the 24 Parganas and Khulna decreased from 2,97,266 maunds to 2,71,048 maunds, and the Commissioner attributes this also to the agricultural depression, as well as to illicit manufacture.

The Stamp Revenue rose from Rs. 47,73,278 to Rs. 48,48,135. The number of prosecutions for offences against the Stamp Laws was 99, against 174 in the previous year.

The Income Tax yielded Rs. 24,26,450, or Rs. 2,25,758 more than in the previous year. Practically the whole of this increase came from Calcutta. In the 24-Parganas and Khulna there was a slight decrease, due, it is said to the general distress and consequent deterioration in the circumstances of some of the assesses. The percentage of collections on the final demand was again worst in Calcutta (96·6 per cent.) and over 97 per cent. in all the districts. No special complaints were received during the year with regard to the working of the Act.

10. *Communications and Public Works.*—The Bengal Central Railway Company took over the management of its own line during the year. The steam tramway from Ranaghat to Krishnagar was still under construction. The construction of four new sluices was commenced in the embankments of the 24-Parganas; and, in Murshidabad, a retired line of embankment is being thrown up at Bhagwangola. In Jessore, the excavation of the silted-up Bhawanipur Khal was undertaken, mainly at the expense of local subscribers. District Boards generally did their best to maintain and improve existing roads.

11. *Education.*—There were 5,804 schools in the Division and 2,06,432 pupils, or 7,953 more pupils than in the previous year. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 10,59,902 to Rs. 10,74,487, owing, no doubt, to the increase of pupils. Rupees 3,77,564 were spent on primary education; and the number of primary schools decreased from 4,864 to 4,806. Though the total expenditure on primary education (owing to falling off in fees) was less than in the previous year, the Lieutenant-Governor is glad to notice that the outlay on it

from Provincial, District, and Municipal Funds was somewhat in excess of that of the preceding year. There were 444 girls' schools and 14,624 girls at school, slightly less than in the previous year. The number of Muhammadans at school has again increased to 58,763, or 28·3 per cent. of the whole number of pupils. The proportion of boys (of all classes) at school to boys of a school-going age was 32·5, against 31·1 in the previous year, but is still far short of what it ought to be in the advanced districts of the Presidency Division. Measures have recently been taken by Government, which it is hoped will have the effect of increasing the number of Muhammadan Inspecting Officers in districts in which Muhammadans preponderate.

12. *Dispensaries and Hospitals.*—There were 60 of these institutions open in 1896, besides the new South Suburban Hospital at Bhawanipur, for which figures are not given; they treated 292,062 patients, only 100 more than in the previous year. The expenditure increased, however, from Rs. 1,02,198 to Rs. 1,06,237. Nearly half this sum was derived from private subscriptions; but it is clear that the Division stands in need of more and better organized medical relief.

13. *Local Self-Government Institutions.*—The District Boards and the recently-formed Union Committees are reported to have done useful work; but the same commendation is not extended to the Local Boards. The expenditure of District Boards on primary education was everywhere sufficient, and is increasing everywhere, except in Nadia; but the sums spent in sanitation were very small in all the districts except the 24-Parganas, where Rs. 12,751 were spent on this object, most of it on water-supply. The Union Committee at Basudebpur in that district is specially reported to have worked satisfactorily. Mr. Westmacott thinks that, in time, these Union Committees will be able to take the place of the Local Boards, and render the latter unnecessary. Three new Municipalities were formed at Garulia, Garden Reach and Azimganj, by separation from the North Barrackpore, South Suburban and Lalbagh Municipalities, respectively. The Municipality at Chanduria in Khulna was abolished. The ultimate number of Municipalities in the Division was 40. General elections were held in 31 of the Municipalities, and none of these elections failed. The Commissioner reports that the people evince more interest in the selection of members than they used to do. The attendance of the members at meetings showed some slight improvement. The collections, as was pointed out last year, appear to be the weakest point of Municipal administration in the Division. The Krishnagar Municipality was particularly bad in this respect. At Cossipore, Chitpur and Maniktala considerable sums were spent on water-supply; and in Naihati, Garulia, Titagarh, and Baranagore, the Municipalities received help from the Managers of mills.

14. *Conduct of Zamindars.*—The Commissioner reports a few cases of oppression or turbulence on the part of landlords and their subordinates. He has given a detailed account of the zamindars who have done well in helping their tenantry in their distress. On the whole, the relations between landlord and tenant have been satisfactory, and many wealthy zamindars have done much to help their raiyats through the prevailing distress. This has been especially the case in Murshidabad, where the Collector observes, that had it not been for the assistance rendered by the zamindars, Government must have undertaken relief measures on a much larger scale than has been found necessary. Foremost in the work of relief, as she had long been in every other charitable work, was the Maharani Surnomoyee, C.I., and the Lieutenant-Governor takes this opportunity of expressing publicly his sense of the deep loss which the Province has sustained in her death. Some of the zamindars in Khulna also gave employment to distressed persons, and took measures to protect their lands from the incursion of sea-water. Among those specially mentioned, as good landlords, are the Mukherjees of Gobardanga, the Chowdhuries of Baruipur in the 24-Parganas, Maharaja Khittish Chunder Roy Bahadur of Krishnagar, the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, Rao Jogendra Narayan Roy of Lalgola, Raja Ranajit Sinha Bahadur of Nashipur, Babu Charu Krishna Mazumdar of Islampur.

Maharajah Sir Jotindra Mohan Tagore is reported to have given much relief to his people who were suffering from want of water, and Mr. Justice Chandra Madhub Ghosh and Roy Hari Charan Chowdhuri to have given employment to distressed persons on their estates in Khulna, and to have taken

measures to protect their lands from incursions of salt water. On the other hand, many others are named who need not be mentioned here, who are absentees and did nothing to help their tenantry, and were unduly severe and oppressive.

15. The thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor are due to Mr. Westmacott for his efficient administration of the Division, and for his exhaustive Report, which, however, might be curtailed with advantage in future years, and from which the following extracts are published for general information.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

M. FINUCANE,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

*Extracts from the Annual General Administration Report of the Presidency Division
for the year 1896-97.*

V.—MATERIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

13. Owing to a succession of bad harvests during the past three years, the material condition of the people in the Twenty-four Parganas has not been satisfactory. The price of common rice averaged ten seers a rupee against fifteen seers in the previous year, but the distress did not amount to famine, as the labouring classes found plenty of work in the mills, in road work under the District Board, and in the excavation of tanks, &c., under the Board and private individuals. In Nadia, people of all classes have suffered to a greater or less extent from the failure of crops and the rise in the prices of food-grains. The suffering developed into famine in some portions of the district, and I believe that had not relief operations on a large scale been undertaken, there must have been deaths from starvation, probably in considerable numbers. A large proportion of the inhabitants of the district are cultivators holding their lands under the *utbandi* system. They are to all intents and purposes tenants-at-will, and are at the mercy of the landlords or superior tenure-holders. With very few exceptions, they are in a chronic and hopeless state of indebtedness to their mahajans. Even tenants with rights of occupancy are as a rule burdened with debt, the only advantage they gain from greater fixity of tenure being the power of borrowing more money than *rai-yats* under the *utbandi* system. They suffer also from the heedless extravagance with which they spend sometimes as much as a year's income on the marriage of a daughter. In Murshidabad the partial failure of crops and the high prices of food-grains have injuriously affected the condition of the poorer classes, and at the close of the year there was considerable distress among the landless classes and the smaller cultivators, especially in the southern and eastern portions of the district. Measures for the relief of distress were commenced in these tracts in February. It is hoped that the distress is only temporary and will disappear when the *aus* rice is harvested. In Jessore the bulk of the people, who are agriculturists, were more or less distressed owing to partial failure of crops. The markets were, however, supplied by importations, and the people had some purchasing resources from the good outturn of their jute crop. This, coupled with the proceeds of date-juice and sugar which are very important products of the district enabled the people to tide over their difficulties till the end of March. As a rule, the inhabitants of Khulna are well-to-do and prosperous, but during the year under report the poor outturn of the rice harvest affected them seriously. In the southern part of the Satkhira subdivision the circumstances were exceptional, the *aman* crop failing owing to the incursion of salt water—a calamity which will probably recur even when the rest of the district is prosperous. In the latter part of October the situation became serious, and relief operations were started in January. During the interval people sold their cattle, brass utensils and ornaments to buy food, and when their resources were exhausted, attended relief works on a maximum wage of two annas a day, while many large cultivators who were unwilling to go to relief works sold everything they had for food.

VI.—EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

14. The number of emigrants registered in the Twenty-four Parganas district during the year was 4,928 as compared with 3,446 in the year preceding. Of these, 813 were for the colonies and 4,115 for the labour districts of Assam, Cachar and Sylhet, as compared with 808 and 2,638, respectively, in the year 1895-96. This abnormal increase is probably due to the distress and the high

prices of food-grains that prevailed in the latter part of the year. Of the total number of persons who emigrated during the year, only four belonged to this district. Besides these, it is stated that a large number of coolies passed through the Barasat subdivision of this district during the year on their way to Assam, Cachar and Sylhet, halting for a short time at the rest-houses at Naihati. During the year there were five rest-houses provided with sleeping accommodation, separate sheds for cooking purposes, and pucca latrines. Drinking water was supplied to these rest-houses from the river Hooghly, and it is reported that proper care was taken of the health of the emigrants. No complaint of ill-treatment by the managers of rest-houses was received. Sixteen cases of cholera occurred in the rest-houses, but only one of them ended fatally. The patients were removed to the cholera hospital for treatment and the compounds were disinfected. It is also stated that a large number of up-countrymen and dhangars come to this subdivision every year for employment in mills and on road and drainage works in municipalities and rural tracts, and that a number of coolies from Midnapore and Cuttack come to the south of the district every year for work, both during the transplanting season and the harvest, and go back as soon as their work is over. There has been no regular emigration or immigration on any scale worthy of note in Nadia. There was the usual exodus of labourers for the harvest to the Sunderbans and the neighbouring districts. A certain number also went to Faridpur for employment on the railway. As in previous years, there was no emigration from, or immigration into, Murshidabad during the year. From Jessore, as usual, a number of labourers visited the Sunderbans for the rice harvest. Some fishermen also went there from the Narail subdivision for catching fish. A number of labourers are also reported to have gone from the Magura subdivision to the neighbouring districts and to Calcutta in search of employment. As regards immigration, gangs of earth-diggers came from the western districts for digging tanks, some Cabulis and up-country hawkers also went round the district carrying warm clothes and other wares for sale. A few Biharis and up-countrymen also came to the Bangaon subdivision for employment on the railway. During the year there was no emigration from Khoolna to other districts, but many people, especially *Pods* in the distressed area, migrated to the eastern parts of the district in the months of November, December and January—some in search of employment and some in consequence of having secured lands better protected from the ravages of salt water. It is reported that many families have come from the Kuliganj side of the Satkhira subdivision, where there was famine, and have settled in the jurisdiction of the Rampal thana. As regards immigration, day labourers from the neighbouring districts came to this district, both during the sowing and the reaping seasons, in quest of work in the fields. Some Cabulis and up-country hawkers visited the district with warm clothes, &c.

VII.—PRICE OF FOOD AND LABOUR.

15. Owing to drought in the past two years, and the consequent poor outturn of crops, the price of common rice and almost all other food-grains in March 1897 ruled much higher than in the corresponding period of either of the two preceding years. The average price of common rice, which forms the staple food in the division, was 10 seers 2 chitaks per rupee against 15 seers 10 chitaks in 1895-96 and 17 seers 13 chitaks in 1894-95. In the Twenty-four Parganas the price of common rice was 9 seers 11 chitaks against 14 seers 6 chitaks in 1895-96; in Nadia it was 9 seers 4 chitaks against 14 seers 7 chitaks; in Murshidabad 9 seers 12 chitaks against 15 seers 13 chitaks; in Jessore 9 seers 12 chitaks against 15 seers 1 chitak and in Khulna 10 seers 3 chitaks against 15 seers 8 chitaks in the previous year. It appears that the prices in all districts ruled high from the beginning of the year under report, but in consequence of the failure of the *aoos* and *aman* crops from insufficient and unseasonable rainfall, prices rose towards the end of the year. But the wages of labour generally remained stationary. In the Twenty-four Parganas and Jessore the wages of both skilled and unskilled labour remained much the same as in the previous year. In Nadia and Murshidabad the wages of skilled

labour increased a little. In the tracts affected by scarcity and famine in the districts of Nadia and Khulna, labourers were obtainable for relief works at the rates of wages prescribed by the Famine Code, which are lower than the ordinary rates.

IX.—TRADE AND COMMERCE.

18. The instructions contained in Government Circular No. 1, dated the 20th April 1896, of the Statistical Department, have been strictly adhered to in compiling the statistics of trade of this division: From the returns supplied by the railway audit offices, the Collectors have prepared and submitted two consolidated returns of the twenty-four staples mentioned in the Government Circular in the prescribed Forms I and II—one for imports and the other for exports. They have also, from the statistics supplied by the Government of Bengal, prepared and submitted four similar returns, two showing the import and export trade along the Nadia rivers, and two showing the import and export trade along the canals. Besides the above, two statements of exports and imports with regard to the trade of the several districts with Calcutta have been prepared in Forms III and IV appended to the Government Circular from the monthly statements published in the *Calcutta Gazette* by the Statistical Department of the Government of Bengal. From the several statements submitted by Collectors, as enumerated above, Divisional returns have been prepared in my office, as directed in the Government circular, and are submitted as appendices to this report, bearing Nos. XXXIII to XL. An amalgamated statement, which has been compiled from the foregoing appendices, as directed by Government, is given below. It shows the total imports and exports in each of the twenty-four staples carried by rail and along the Nadia rivers and canals. With reference to the instructions contained in paragraph 3 of the Government Circular to the effect that in the amalgamated statement all traffic coming towards Calcutta should be treated as “down” traffic, and all traffic going from the direction of Calcutta as “up” traffic, the Collector of the Twenty-four Parganas observes that, having regard to the relative position of Calcutta and his district, all imports into the Twenty-four Parganas from other districts except Calcutta have been considered as coming towards Calcutta and treated as “down” traffic, and all exports from the Twenty-four Parganas to other districts except Calcutta have been considered as going from the direction of Calcutta and treated as “up” traffic. As regards the traffic with Calcutta, all imports into the district from Calcutta have been considered as coming from the direction of Calcutta and treated as “up” traffic, and all exports from the district to Calcutta have been considered as going towards Calcutta and treated as “down” traffic. In preparing this statement, the internal trade between the several districts of this division has been excluded, as directed in the Government Circular:—

ARTICLES.		IMPORTS.							
		Up.				Down.			
		Rail.	Nadia river.	Canal.	Total.	Rail.	Nadia river.	Canal.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1	Rice	1,02,297	1,30,426	40,055	3,61,778	2,06,497	695	595	2,07,677
2	Paddy	2,71,246	6,651	54,785	3,32,682	5,70,122	22,035	6,425	6,04,792
3	Wheat	170	...	00	200	154	613	...	767
4	Gram and pulse	8,179	2	5,380	13,561	7,330	9,091	...	16,420
5	Other food-grains	202	...	...	202	2,207	317	...	2,524
6	Jute, raw	13,250	...	1,68,387	...	9,54,391	5,340	...	20,543
7	Gunny-bags	13,081	4,750	...	17,831	2,134	200	...	1,34,167
8	Linsed	23,137	...	...	23,137	1,29,127	40	...	54,330
9	Mustard seed	30,884	9,257	6,785	46,926	32,700	21,540	45	93
10	Tea, Indian	93	...	10	103	...	...	...	63,151
11	Cotton, raw	2,131	...	...	2,141	63,151	...	...	329
12	Silk, raw	2,054	...	...	2,054	270	50	...	0,773
13	Sugar, refined	6,847	68	445	7,360	4,088	2,626	...	28,066
14	Do., unrefined	13,058	...	5,335	18,393	22,372	6,694	...	310
15	Tobacco, manufactured	63	...	...	63	...	...	5	40,004
16	Do., unmanufactured	9,608	130	8,283	18,021	33,221	0,733	60	10
17	Indigo	92	...	...	92	10	...	...	11
18	Cotton piece-goods, { in bales	1,14,016	...	1,352	1,15,368	11	...	...	167
19	European, { in boxes	280	...	...	280	...	...	...	18,710
20	Cotton piece-goods, { in bales	555	5	...	560	129	...	...	4,088
21	Indian, { in boxes	52	...	...	52	...	...	...	1,84,403
22	Cotton twist, European	14,000	...	850	15,014	18,710	...	...	3,387
23	Ditto, Indian	1,846	...	...	1,846	4,088	...	1,875	1,20,58,726
24	Salt	1,57,082	...	1,91,606	3,48,688	1,67,024	...	...	...
25	Kerosine oil	41,100	...	53,268	94,368	3,387	...	...	...
26	Coke and coal	21,55,022	...	1,38,265	22,93,287	1,30,57,151	...	1,375	...

ARTICLES.	EXPORTS.							
	Up.				Down.			
	Rail.	Nadia river.	Canal.	Total.	Rail.	Nadia river.	Canal.	Total.
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1 Rice	1,15,039	4,751	25	1,19,815	1,60,005	6,616	2,40,554	4,16,906
2 Paddy	8,242	...	1,163	9,407	40,601	729	75,220	1,16,556
3 Wheat	1,00,810	...	...	1,00,810	37,809	...	500	38,309
4 Gram and pulse	15,16,918	1,050	...	15,17,968	2,30,149	379	1,62,935	4,53,472
5 Other food-grains	68,778	...	...	68,778	36,608	...	...	36,608
6 Jute, raw	6,74,622	5,965	635	...	8,26,404	...	9,10,138	16,42,760
7 Gunny-bags	17,265	3,500	...	20,765	11,945	...	...	11,945
8 Linseed	95,146	...	...	95,146	30,028	...	15,523	54,594
9 Mustard seed	7,211	50	...	7,261	14,206	230	8,676	23,211
10 Tea, Indian ... ..	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
11 Cotton, raw	2,193	...	...	2,193	1,264	...	981	2,244
12 Silk, raw	132	...	...	132	6,263	...	...	6,395
13 Sugar, refined	3,027	328	...	3,355	14,667	4	18,076	28,096
14 "do., unrefined	2,19,020	1,718	400	2,14,344	8,31,983	...	2,41,145	6,72,624
15 Tobacco, manufactured	53	...	...	53	25	...	...	25
16 "do., unmanufactured	12,393	...	...	12,393	9,112	457	975	16,344
17 Indigo	2,956	...	...	2,956	2,500	...	30	2,610
18 Cotton piece-goods, { in bales... } European	583	...	...	583	607	...	200	707
19 Cotton piece-goods, { in bales... } Indian	634	...	...	634	330	...	...	330
20 Cotton twist, European	123	...	...	123	31	...	...	31
21 "Ditto, Indian	9,076	...	...	9,076	49,004	...	...	49,004
22 Salt	50,787	1,132	...	57,919	1,016	...	...	1,016
23 Kerosine oil	6,82,089	...	25,450	7,08,140	6,10,870	...	...	6,10,870
24 Coke and coal	90,163	96,850	...	1,86,013	3,453	1,125	...	4,578

19. The above statement shows that the principal articles of export from this division are rice, husked and in husk, wheat, gram and pulse, and other food-grains, jute, gunny-bags, linseed, silk, sugar (both refined and unrefined), tobacco and indigo. The table below shows the extent to which these articles were exported during the year, by rail, river, and canal:—

ARTICLES.	Twenty-four Parganas.		Nadia.		Murshidabad.		Jessore.		Khulna.		Total.	
	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Rice	11,32,710	2,84,551	28,473	48,995	2,04,600	1,42,380	1,41,935	25,151	1,86,300	25,063	16,94,533	5,50,020
Paddy	2,64,082	64,100	5,008	19,257	1,347	1,255	10,832	18,633	1,02,030	28,317	4,61,385	1,25,002
Wheat ... ..	...	113	2,15,800	1,00,600	1,57,230	38,105	...	...	...	...	1,30,214	...
Gram and pulse	3,852	6,919	11,02,304	14,01,655	2,01,570	2,00,450	2,48,412	2,25,801	25,071	44,907	3,76,929	1,30,214
Other food-grains ... ..	...	8	94,353	65,632	90,947	30,401	...	...	...	...	1,81,199	19,72,013
Jute	3,42,179	3,74,075	7,07,584	7,82,072	2,12,475	1,02,012	3,07,088	5,18,600	4,32,933	5,52,306	1,87,046	1,05,386
Gunny-bags	47,365	11,228	8,786	14,206	3,584	5,101	1,617	...	...	...	20,65,950	24,23,164
Linseed	3,004	1,081	2,44,851	1,00,586	72,670	20,100	23,227	17,331	1,210	3,091	81,564	31,340
Silk ... ..	...	...	...	...	7,120	6,315	...	...	...	...	3,44,462	1,49,730
Sugar { Refined	11,365	11,800	1,374	2,798	29	88	5,154	14,624	3,575	1,375	21,038	6,435
Unrefined	1,61,335	1,60,079	1,02,807	2,10,104	2,462	903	2,04,138	2,01,728	57,982	1,24,058	5,88,672	39,655
Tobacco	1,380	1,822	10,715	11,484	1,213	2,685	2,407	7,000	...	...	7,88,871	...
Indigo	100	...	5,680	2,856	1,900	1,957	312	613	...	...	10,191	23,247

This shows that there was a decrease in the export of all the articles during the year, with the exception of gram and pulses, jute, sugar (both refined and unrefined) and tobacco. The decrease in all staples under food-grains is said to be due to the drought and consequent bad harvest. The increase in the export of gram and pulses, jute, sugar and tobacco is attributed to the fact of the people having had to sell them in order to purchase rice for food.

The table below shows the exports of these articles from the several districts to Calcutta by rail, river, road and canal.

Export from several districts of this Division to Calcutta by rail, river, road and canal.

ARTICLES.	Twenty-four Parganas.		Nadia.		Murshidabad.		Jessore.		Khulna.		Total.	
	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Rice	23,81,409	22,71,391	75,630	80,547	1,23,098	45,807	1,42,701	17,766	1,61,491	2,247	29,01,37	24,95,755
Paddy	2,98,710	1,36,911	20,310	10,433	275	...	84,426	8,650	1,05,101	5,029	5,20,169	1,01,002
Wheat ... ..	...	...	2,40,247	93,825	1,06,358	37,990	2,220	...	...	...	4,57,721	1,31,805
Gram and pulse	55,145	33,400	13,14,000	5,51,641	1,05,612	91,120	2,37,340	19,380	24,502	29,338	17,82,155	7,04,945
Other food-grains	54	60	88,388	66,901	77,081	34,074	1,207	...	...	...	1,66,325	1,01,041
Jute	9,03,033	12,03,613	7,36,133	8,44,615	1,86,630	1,60,246	4,16,797	5,02,033	4,80,527	4,50,120	27,21,001	31,71,325
Gunny-bags	61,60,183	61,86,860	1,38,227	1,90,773	118	344	29,155	20,524	12,035	12,100	62,79,844	67,14,026
Linseed	26,332	10,238	3,30,077	2,11,830	71,028	20,100	23,277	18,012	984	2,541	4,51,624	2,08,731
Silk	70	15	2,019	844	7,023	6,293	...	...	...	...	9,541	7,213
Sugar { Refined	83,740	73,167	10,980	11,372	...	...	6,580	13,878	3,340	573	1,04,075	98,905
Unrefined	3,61,615	3,72,704	44,551	50,560	...	0	1,02,071	1,36,717	60,320	31,513	6,18,613	1,93,584
Tobacco	4,13,222	40,500	23,630	23,632	115	1,108	18,017	19,814	270	...	83,003	86,024
Indigo	100	...	5,853	2,123	1,975	1,947	342	...	...	...	8,170	5,002

There was a decrease in the export of all articles to Calcutta during the year, as compared with the year preceding, with the exception of jute, gunny-bags and tobacco, which show a considerable increase, probably due to the cause stated above.

The principal articles imported into this division are rice, paddy, cotton piece-goods, salt, kerosine oil, gunny-bags, and coal and coke. The following table shows the extent to which these articles were imported into this division by rail, river and canal during the year, as compared with the year preceding:—

Articles imported into the districts of this Division by rail, river and canal.

ARTICLES.	Twenty-four Parganas.		Nadia.		Murshidabad.		Jessore.		Khulna.		Total.	
	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Rice ...	Mds. 84,889	Mds. 1,06,429	Mds. 1,96,955	Mds. 3,68,202	Mds. 5,742	Mds. 7,108	Mds. 4,587	Mds. 54,883	Mds. 109	Mds. 32,735	Mds. 2,92,682	Mds. 6,62,307
Paddy ...	60,976	64,231	4,42,171	8,07,031	15,147	28,240	884	31,012	8	9,750	5,19,186	9,41,424
Cotton piece-goods ...	99,115	1,000	54,323	Bales 55,470 Boxes 87	13,799	Bales 16,728 Boxes 215	22,632	21,463	36,375	Bales 21,333 Boxes 19	2,30,461	Bales 311 Boxes 93,331
Salt ...	66,408	52,314	2,65,096	1,07,687	1,02,446	58,099	1,70,775	1,34,516	89,519	54,464	6,73,394	5,08,688
Kerosine oil ...	10,246	11,891	14,691	3,347	21,373	13,274	30,406	42,674	10,401	26,509	96,674	67,724
Gunny-bags ...	13,289	4,883	18,036	28,105	8,167	13,819	1,716	1,940	1,211	699	44,363	47,231
Coal and coke ...	41,67,137	1,15,54,302	16,78,703	10,63,317	4,84,710	5,00,543	3,65,414	3,70,154	3,10,486	2,63,697	69,09,053	1,43,62,918

During the year under report there was a large increase in the import of all the articles into this division, with the exception of salt, owing to the bad harvest and consequent distress.

The table below shows the imports of these articles into the several districts of this division from Calcutta by rail, river, road and canal:—

Imports into the several districts of this Division from Calcutta by rail, river, road and canal.

ARTICLES.	Twenty-four Parganas.		Nadia.		Murshidabad.		Jessore.		Khulna.		Total.	
	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Rice ...	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Paddy ...	Not shown in the statement in Form IV.											
Cotton piece-goods ...	18,75,084	31,31,758	33,18,020	38,77,433	Bales 13,689 Boxes 41	Bales 15,965 Boxes 103	11,38,379	9,20,244	7,78,803	8,89,261	Bales 73,11,285 Boxes 13,689	Bales 76,37,424 Boxes 15,965
Salt ...	1,19,034	1,14,381	2,74,397	2,94,189	98,017	54,973	1,77,538	1,61,895	63,738	1,29,085	7,07,214	7,54,624
Kerosine oil ...	7,04,899	7,37,115	63,720	63,320	16,200	556	48,053	48,304	11,051	17,145	8,42,342	8,42,342
Gunny-bags ...	2,79,960	2,45,080	7,94,818	9,81,097	7,054	6,714	99,310	68,110	36,330	10,240	12,21,471	13,12,396
Coal and coke ...	Not shown in the prescribed statement in Form IV.											

20. The imports into the several districts of this division from Calcutta show a considerable increase under all heads. The Collector of the Twenty-four Parganas has not explained these fluctuations. The Collector of Nadia states that the quantities of rice and paddy imported into his district far outweigh the quantities exported, and that had it not been for the supplies of rice obtained from the *Rarkh*, it would have been absolutely necessary for Government to import rice into the distressed areas. The Collector of Murshidabad observes that the figures supplied by the railway authorities and toll collector's office at Jangipur do not include the large export that is annually carried on by carts. The export of rice by cart from the *Rarkh* to other districts was this year far above the average, and it is probable that, had figures been available, the total export from the district would show an increase over that of the previous year in spite of the partial failure of crops. The Collector of the Twenty-four Parganas reports that, besides the twenty-four staples enumerated in the statements prescribed by Government, there are other articles, some of them important, in which traffic is carried on between his district and Calcutta along the undermentioned eleven main routes of the district, viz., (1) Kamardanga, (2) Behala, (3) Kowrapookur khal, (4) Kowrapookur road, (5) Gurriya, (6) Bone Hooghly, (7) Jingerpole, (8) Matiabruj road, (9) Matiabruj ghât, (10) Nimak Mahal, and (11) Moti jheel. Of these the principal articles are (1) lime and limestone, (2) fresh fruits other than cocoanuts and betel-nuts, (3) iron, (4) firewood, (5) bricks and tiles, (6) hides, and (7) spirits. The following table

shows the imports and exports of these articles as registered along the above-mentioned eleven main routes during the past two years :—

ARTICLES.	IMPORT FROM CALCUTTA.		EXPORT TO CALCUTTA.	
	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.
1	2	3	4	5
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1. Lime and limestone ...	1,19,113	1,74,725	14,275	10,292
2. Fresh fruits other than cocoanuts and betelnuts.	90,805	1,60,147	5,63,563	6,53,412
3. Iron ...	28,257	50,118	16,741	21,843
4. Firewood ...	70,590	86,763	2,68,113	4,10,436
	No.	No.	No.	No.
5. Bricks and tiles ...	1,129,604	1,181,828	2,337,675	5,379,150
6. Hides ...	15,037	6,243	41,281	48,537
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
7. Spirits ...	56,253	57,279	41,193	44,008

21. The Collector of Jessore states that the bulk of the import and export traffic in the eastern parts of his district with the eastern districts is carried on by country boats, and that, as there is no organized agency for registration, no figures are available. It is also stated that besides the twenty-four staples prescribed by Government, Jessore exports molasses, fish, cattle, hides, cattle-bones, rags, betel-nuts and butter. The following statement shows the transactions of the Khulna Loan Company, Limited:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount of deposit ...	1,42,702	0	9
Ditto of loan given ...	79,279	7	6
Ditto of deposit withdrawn ...	1,23,600	1	9
Ditto of principal realized ...	59,716	0	0
Ditto of interest realized ...	21,152	0	6
Ditto of the interest given of the deposit made ...	19,333	4	0
Dividend ...	1,051	14	0

It is reported that the capital of the company is Rs. 15,000, and that the rate of interest varied, as in the previous year, from 12 annas to Re. 1-9 per cent. per mensem. The following statement shows the transactions of the Khulna Trading Company for the year 1896:—

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
1			2		
	Rs.	A. P.		Rs.	A. P.
Advance money realized ...	585	14 0	Deposit in the Khulna Loan office ...	38	14 0
Interest realized ...	60	5 9	Loan given ...	1,730	14 0
Sale of gold mohurs ...	258	8 0	Miscellaneous expenditure ...	29	8 6
Profit on the above ...	2	6 0			
Deposit withdrawn ...	1,070	0 0			
Interest on deposits ...	33	14 0			
Total ...	2,008	15 9	Total ...	1,793	15 6
Opening balance ...	10	8 3	Closing balance ...	225	8 6
Total ...	2,019	8 0	Total ...	2,019	8 0

In Jessore, one Muhammad Hadem Hazi Haji of Baradaha, police-station Sailkhopa, started a company known as "A company to lend money without

interest, Limited," ostensibly as a branch office of one at Jagannathpur, outpost Chirirbunder, district Dinajpur. The business of this so-called company appears to be suspicious, and three persons have laid charges of cheating, under section 417, Indian Penal Code, against the Baradaha Company, while others have made verbal complaints to the Joint-Magistrate of Jhenidah. The procedure was notified by the company to be as follows. A man should get himself registered by paying two rupees as fee and a monthly subscription of one rupee. He then becomes entitled to a loan of one hundred rupees after four months, two hundred after eight months, and so on, on condition that the loan is repaid in forty monthly instalments. The man Hadem Haji has been convicted in a forgery case, and sentenced to four years' rigorous imprisonment.

* * * * *

XVII.—CONDITION OF THE DIVISION AS REGARDS LAND AND LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION.

32. The number of estates of each class borne on the revenue-roll of the several districts during the years 1895-96 and 1896-97 is shown below:—

YEAR.	Class I— Permanently settled estates.	Class II— Temporarily settled estates.	Class III— Estates held direct by Government.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5
1895-96 ...	9,330	752	257	10,339
1896-97 ...	9,369	733	256	10,358
Difference ...	+ 39	— 19	— 1	+ 19

In all districts there was a change in the total number of estates. In the Twenty-four Parganas the number increased by nine, in Nadia by four, in Murshidabad by eighteen, and in Jessore by one, while in Khulna there was a decrease of thirteen, the net result in the division being an increase of nineteen estates. Transfers from one class to another took place in every district, owing partly to the sale of estates for arrears of Government revenue and their purchase by Government for want of bidders, and partly to the sale of petty Government estates to private individuals with the revenue fixed in perpetuity. The increase in the Twenty-four Parganas and the decrease in Khulna are due to the transfer of thirteen estates from Khulna to the former district. Three new estates were added to class II in Nadia, and one estate was received by transfer from Rajshahi. The breaking up of a Government estate, which consisted of a number of scattered plots in different villages, caused the increase in Murshidabad. In Jessore a new estate was created by the acquisition of a plot of land for the protection of the subdivisional building at Narail. The following table shows the demand, collections, remissions and balances of land revenue during the past two years, 1895-96 and 1896-97:—

YEAR.	Arrear demand.	Current demand.	Total demand.	Arrear. collection.	Current collection.	Total collections.	Remission.	Balance.	of Percentage collection demand.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1895-96 ...	Rs. 1,37,742	Rs. 51,06,291	Rs. 52,44,033	Rs. 98,220	Rs. 49,48,863	Rs. 50,47,083	Rs. 33,661	Rs. 1,03,289	Rs. 96.2
1896-97 ...	1,58,866	51,22,004	52,80,870	1,25,025	49,61,206	50,86,221	23,674	1,70,875	96.3

There was a slight improvement in the percentage of collections on demand compared with the preceding year. There was a corresponding increase in collections according to the rise in the total demand of the year, while the remissions decreased from Rs. 33,661 to Rs. 23,674. The percentage of collections in each class is exhibited in the following statement:—

CLASS OF ESTATE.	1895-96.						1896-97.					
	Arrear demand.	Arrear collection.	Percentage of collection.	Current demand.	Current collection.	Percentage of collection.	Arrear demand.	Arrear collection.	Percentage of collection.	Current demand.	Current collection.	Percentage of collection.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
I.—Permanently-settled estates.	Rs. 34,192	Rs. 32,792	95·9	Rs. 44,39,978	Rs. 43,80,562	98·6	Rs. 53,146	Rs. 52,714	99·18	Rs. 44,41,327	Rs. 44,04,086	99·17
II.—Temporarily-settled estates.	30,101	23,797	79·05	3,21,225	3,03,511	94·46	35,278	31,636	89·67	3,35,026	2,77,621	82·81
III.—Estates held direct by Government.	73,449	41,631	56·6	3,45,088	2,74,790	79·6	70,442	40,075	57·74	3,65,651	2,78,989	76·34
Total ...	1,37,742	98,220	71·2	51,06,291	49,58,863	97·1	1,58,866	1,25,025	78·69	51,22,004	49,61,296	96·86

Compared with the preceding year, the percentage of collections of arrear demand improved in all the classes, though it was below the prescribed standard of cent per cent. Considering the impoverished condition of the people caused by failure of crops, the results in Nadia, Jessore, and Khulna, where the percentage was above ninety, may be accepted as fair. The collections were not satisfactory in the Twenty-four Parganas or in Murshidabad. The current collections improved in permanently-settled estates, but fell off in those temporarily-settled or under direct management. It is reported that in consequence of failure of crops and high prices farmers could not collect rents or pay the revenue. The percentage of total collections, i.e., both arrear and current, is as follows:—

Calcutta	...	...	...	99·91
Twenty-four Parganas	...	...	...	93·9
Nadia	...	...	...	98·8
Murshidabad	...	...	...	97·7
Jessore	...	...	...	99·0
Khulna	...	...	...	93·0
Total	...	...	...	96·3

The statement below shows the collections in estates under direct management in each district of the division:—

DISTRICT.	Number of estates.	Current demand.	Arrear demand.	Total demand.	Current collection.	Arrear collection.	Total collection.	Percentage of current collections on current demand.	Percentage of arrear collections on arrear demand.	Percentage of total collections on total demand.	Percentage of current collection on current demand in 1895-96.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Twenty-four Parganas	1	Rs. 18,558	Rs. 90	Rs. 18,648	Rs. 18,531	Rs. 13	Rs. 18,544	99·06	60·	60·41	99·9
Calcutta	34	2,71,980	47,533	3,19,513	2,22,186	24,586	2,46,772	81·69	61·02	77·27	81·09
Nadia	29	18,010	4,063	22,073	14,000	2,737	16,737	75·20	55·14	71·02	74·5
Murshidabad	79	25,461	12,850	38,311	11,077	9,398	20,475	45·86	72·74	54·87	58·5
Jessore	83	4,836	447	5,283	3,351	301	3,652	69·29	67·83	69·12	94·1
Khulna	30	10,206	4,809	15,015	9,218	3,691	12,909	60·88	76·75	61·42	70·3
Total	256	3,65,051	70,442	4,35,493	2,78,080	40,675	3,18,755	78·44	57·77	75·62	79·6
Total for 1895-96	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

The number of estates under direct management was 256 against 257 in the preceding year, changes having taken place in every district except Calcutta.

The Twenty-four Parganas shows a decrease of twelve estates, and Nadia of four estates, chiefly owing to the sale of petty Government estates. The increase of eleven estates in Murshidabad is due to the breaking up of the scattered estate Rati Bahadurpur into separate estates. In Jessore the purchase by Government of two revenue-paying estates at sales for arrears of revenue and the acquisition of a plot of land for the protection of the subdivisional buildings at Narail explain the addition of three estates. In Khulna one estate has been added to this class on account of three out of four shares of a permanently-settled estate having been purchased by Government. There was an increase in the divisional totals under the heads of "Current demand" and "Current collection." The decrease in the current demand in Calcutta is due to a decrease in the number of revenue-paying holdings on account of redemption of land tax. The increase in the Twenty-four Parganas, in spite of a decrease in the number of estates, is due to the inclusion for the first time of the demand of certain canal surplus lands in the demand of the Panchannagram estate. The decrease in Nadia is due to a considerable falling off in the price for which thatching-grass was sold in the Meherpur subdivision. The decrease in the demand in Murshidabad is due to the abatement of rent in estate Chur Masimpur and to the transfer of three estates to Birbhum and of nine estates to class I on their sale to private persons. The increase in Jessore and Khulna is due to an increase in the number of estates. The percentage of current collections on current demand in Calcutta were the same as in the preceding year, viz., 99·9. It slightly improved in the Twenty-four Parganas and Nadia, but fell off considerably in Murshidabad, Jessore and Khulna. In no district, except in Calcutta, was the prescribed standard attained. The poorest results are shown in Murshidabad, in which district only 45·86 per cent., were collected. As regards arrear collections, all the districts, including Calcutta, show bad results, which may fairly be attributed to the universal failure of crops. Mr. Walsh, Officiating Collector of the Twenty-four Parganas, reports that the crops have been for some years past destroyed either by excessive floods or by ingress of salt water into the principal Government estate in the district. Considering the failure of crops, I cannot blame Collectors for the poor collections. The remissions granted during the year are classified below:—

			1895-96.	1896-97.
			Rs.	Rs.
Nominal remissions	...	...	10,045	1,967
Remissions of grace	...	...	22,504	19,186
Remissions of right	...	...	1,112	2,521
Total			33,661	23,674

The nominal remissions represent the rent of certain vacant godowns in the Orphanganj market and the rent of unoccupied lands in some Government estates. The remissions of grace were granted to tenants on account of failure of crops. The remissions of right were granted chiefly on account of redemption of Government revenue and diluvion. There has been no material change during the year either in the agency or mode of management of estates under direct management. The question of paying tahsildars by commission in the district of Murshidabad, and not by fixed salaries, was considered during the year, and my proposals have been sanctioned by the Board of Revenue and by Government. The question of extending the system into the other districts of the division is now under consideration. The statement below shows the

expenditure incurred for the management of khas mahals and for miscellaneous and other improvements:—

Statement showing the expenditure incurred in estates under direct management from the various heads during the year 1896-97.

DIVISION.	District.	AMOUNT EXPENDED FROM—				REMARKS.
		7½ per cent.		2 per cent. for sanitary improvements.	Total.	
		Management proper.	Miscellaneous improvements, including agricultural, improvements and experiments.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Presidency {	Twenty-four Parganas ...	Rs. 12,474	Rs. 3,114	Rs. 4,229	Rs. 19,817	
	Nadia ...	1,266	103	1,270	2,639	
	Murshidabad ...	2,222	115	1,385	3,722	
	Jessore ...	...	...	48	48	
	Khulna ...	628	500	80	1,208	
	Total ...	16,590	3,832	7,012	27,434	

In the Twenty-four Parganas, besides the sum shown in the above table, Rs. 30,000 were sanctioned for miscellaneous and sanitary improvements in the Government estate Orphanganj. Out of the total sum of Rs. 36,900 sanctioned for works of miscellaneous, sanitary and agricultural improvements in Government estates in the district, Rs. 34,615 were actually disbursed, leaving an unexpended balance of Rs. 2,285. The expenditure on works of miscellaneous improvement amounted to Rs. 27,989, out of which Rs. 27,272 were spent in Orphanganj, on the construction of four godowns and of an inlet for the accommodation of boats, and also in repairs to godowns and sheds, &c. The balance, Rs. 717, was spent on repairs to certain tahsil cutcherries in the subdivisions of Diamond Harbour and Basirhat. The total amount spent on works of sanitary improvement, which generally consisted in excavating or re-excavating tanks, was Rs. 4,229. A sum of Rs. 2,397 was spent on works of agricultural improvement. Of this amount, Rs. 1,859 was spent in constructing embankments in Bonomalipur, in the Diamond Harbour subdivision, with a view to protect the lands from the ingress of salt water; and the balance in repairing the riverside embankment in Port Canning. The sum of Rs. 1,373, allotted for miscellaneous sanitary and agricultural improvements in Nadia, was spent as follows:—

	Rs.
(1) Re-excavation of a tank in the subdivisional compound at Kushtiya ...	894
(2) Construction of a masonry well at Chur Kururyia ...	376
(3) Repairs to cutcherry of Chur Kururyia ...	30
Repairs of cutcherry at Bilmediya in the Meherpur subdivision ...	73
Total ...	1,373

In Murshidabad, Rs. 1,500 were allotted for sanitary, agricultural and miscellaneous improvements in Government khasmahals during the year. The whole of this amount was spent during the year as detailed below:—

	Rs.
On repairing cutcherries ...	49
Repairing and maintaining roads ...	15
Digging tanks and sinking wells ...	1,340
Construction of embankments ...	15
Clearing jungle ...	45
In miscellaneous works ...	30
Total ...	1,500

In Jessore the allotment for works of improvement was Rs. 100, out of which Rs. 48 was actually spent in sinking a well in Banskholia in the Magura subdivision. The allotment in the district of Khulna for miscellaneous, sanitary and agricultural improvements amounted to Rs. 700, out of which Rs. 580 were actually disbursed on the following works:—(1) On repairing a sluice-gate in Kilua Khal in Chandkhali, Rs. 375. (2) Foot bridges in Chur Baniyari in the Bagerhat subdivision, Rs. 125. (3) Sinking wells, Rs. 80. No new staple was cultivated in any district in this division during the past year. In the Twenty-four Parganas the number of schools maintained in Government estates was 64, and the amount expended for the purpose was Rs. 3,116-7. This amount includes rewards given to certain schools. In Nadia there were two primary schools in the khasmahals of the Kushtia subdivision, each of which received a monthly grant of Rs. 5. There were also two primary schools in Bilmediya in the Meherpur subdivision, one of which was maintained by the Church Missionary Society and the other by the District Board. There was a night school at Gobindapur, Faridpur. The Government grant for primary education in Government estates in this district amounted to Rs. 352, which was distributed to eight schools, as in the previous year. In Murshidabad eight primary schools with 240 pupils were maintained in Government estates under direct management. The total expenditure on account of those schools amounted to Rs. 593, of which Rs. 354 were met from Provincial revenues. In Jessore there are no schools or patshalas maintained from khasmahal funds. Khasmahals in this district are generally small patches of arable land in villages the greater portion of which is the property of private landowners. There are primary schools in many such villages containing khasmahal lands, the teachers of which are paid under the reward system. In Khulna there were 25 stipendiary schools with 729 pupils in Government estates at the end of March last, against 29 schools and 896 pupils at the close of the previous year. The Collector attributes the decrease to the distressed condition of the people owing to famine. Rupees 2,050 were spent upon primary education in the Government estates of this district during the year under report. The condition of the raiyats in the khasmahals of this division during the year under report was generally bad everywhere owing to failure of crops. The raiyats were somewhat better off in the Twenty-four Parganas than elsewhere, but the condition of the great majority was bad. Large remissions were granted in almost every estate, as I found the raiyats really unable to pay the amounts due from them. The accounts of the several Government estates in this division were duly inspected. No material irregularities or discrepancies were brought to notice. No complaints were received against any tahsildar or their subordinates. One thousand two hundred and twenty-eight estates or shares of estates with land revenue amounting to Rs. 6,74,229 became liable to sale during the year under review, of which only 101, or 8·2 per cent., were actually sold, against 10·4 per cent. of the preceding year and 11·3 per cent. of the year 1894-95. The sale law was worked with leniency in all the districts of the division, and defaulting proprietors were allowed every facility for paying

their dues and saving their estates or shares from sale. The following statement shows the settlements effected during the year 1896-97 :—

DIVISION.	District.	ORIGINAL SETTLEMENTS.		RESETTLEMENTS.				SUMMARY SETTLEMENTS.				ESTIMATED REVENUE.	
		Number.	Net revenue.	Number.	Net revenue.	Increase.	Decrease.	Number.	Net revenue.	Increase.	Decrease.	Number.	Estimated revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Presidency	Twenty-four Parganas...	...	Rs.	...	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	...	Rs.	Rs.	...	...	Rs.
	Nadia ...	3	443	16	9,245	1,110	253	19	6,428	...	...	3	22,945
	Murshidabad ...	...	...	3	1,710	192	...	...	...	...	...	20	13,561
	Jessore ...	4	531	4	126	12	14	1	25	25	...	10	8,723
	Khulna ...	...	...	1	50	...	22	...	...	...	...	5	1,180
	Sundarbans ...	23	23,090	5	11,189	8,488	...	1	50	...	...	6	1,743
	Total ...	30	23,843	29	22,326	9,602	200	14	6,503	25	...	307	83,471
Total for 1896-96 ...		26	16,067	66	12,516	2,091	2,255	6	742	...	...	282	64,508

The number of settlements effected during the year was 73, of which 30 were original settlements, 29 resettlements, and 14 summary settlements. The net increase of revenue obtained by these settlements was Rs. 9,588. Of the 30 original settlements, three were in Nadia, four in Jessore, and the rest in the Sundarbans, and the revenue obtained by these settlements amounted to Rs. 23,843. The resettlements resulted in a net increase of revenue by Rs. 9,533. In Jessore the resettlements caused a net decrease of two rupees and in Khulna that of Rs. 22. In almost all the districts of this division there are estates in which the relations between the zamindars and their raiyats were strained, though no outbreak of ill-feeling came under notice. In some estates the tenants complained of the oppression of zamindars and their agents in enhancing rents and the use of coercion.

The following table shows the amount of landlords' fees received and paid during the year under the Tenancy Act :—

DISTRICT.	Balance of 1896-97.	Amount received in 1896-97.	Total.	Amount paid out to landlords.	Amount deposited in the Treasury.	Amount re-mitted to other districts.	Total.	Other fees disposed of.	Balance.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Twenty-four Parganas ...	Rs. 443	Rs. 6,690	Rs. 5,133	Rs. 611	Rs. 4,497	Rs. 35	Rs. 5,133	...	...	...
Nadia ...	23	928	940	209	660	7	942	...	...	7
Murshidabad ...	243	908	1,149	30	873	197	1,100	...	...	46
Jessore ...	29	2,060	2,089	129	1,696	220	2,044	16	...	29
Khulna ...	68	1,053	2,031	146	1,985	...	2,031	...	...	...
Total ...	866	10,545	11,351	1,185	9,603	459	11,250	16	86	...

The reluctance of landlords to accept these fees still continues, as is evident from the fact that out of a total sum of Rs. 10,545, only Rs. 1,185, or about twelve per cent., were accepted. Certain new rules suggested by me for the disposal of such fees were adopted by Government and promulgated in August last. According to these rules landlords' fees on receipt are not at once sent out and tendered, but are placed in revenue deposit, and notices only are sent to the landlords concerned that the amounts stand to their credit, and will be paid to them or transferred to their revenue accounts on their application. I have no information as to the result of the change, but it appears to me that it would be convenient for landlords who wish to accept the fees if they were credited to their tauzi accounts. In all the districts of this division the petty Government estates, the sale of which had been ordered and which remained unsold at the close of the previous year, have been put up to sale, but the results have been more or less disappointing, as people will not buy these estates except upon much more liberal terms than Government allows. I consider that the policy of selling petty estates subject to payment of revenue equal to the gross rental, is a mistaken one. It has been found that they are seldom sold on such terms, or, if sold, they are soon thrown upon the hands of Government again. The estates are not worth keeping, and I think they should be offered for sale upon terms which would attract purchasers. In Nadia, five petty Government estates,

with a total area of 34 acres and Rs. 57 as revenue, have been sold for Rs. 155. In Murshidabad, twelve Government estates have been sold to the highest bidders for Rs. 1,027. These estates have been sold subject to payment of the annual revenue assessed on them. In Jessore, thirty Government estates were put up to sale in April 1896, but no bidder appeared. Subsequently, on my recommendation, the sale of fourteen of these estates was sanctioned by Government in July 1896, at an upset price of five times the rental, subject to an assessment in perpetuity equal to 75 per cent. of the gross rental. They were put up to sale on these terms, but still no bidder appeared. The Collector was then ordered to endeavour to sell the estates locally, but he succeeded in selling only two of them, the remaining twelve finding no bidder. It is extremely desirable to get rid of these petty Government estates which are scattered in various parts of the district and are difficult and expensive to manage. They are comparatively worthless little plots, of which the rents do not pay the travelling allowance of collecting officers, and they are always subject to encroachment, as it is considered safe to plunder Government. In order to facilitate the sale of estates, the lands of which are situated in several villages, I have caused such estates to be split up and the lands situated in each village to be separately advertised for sale. I have also directed Collectors to issue personal notices to the landlords of the villages in which the lands offered for sale are situated, but even these measures have not been successful. It appears to me that the estates cannot be sold unless they are made free of revenue, and I know that the prices which would be paid on such terms would amply compensate Government for the petty loss of revenue.

33. *Road and Public Works Cesses.*—The following table exhibits the collections of road and public works cesses during the year :—

DISTRICT.	DEMANDS.			COLLECTIONS.				BALANCES.			Deduct remission.	Net arrear.	Percentage of net balance on gross demand.
	Current.	Arrear.	Total.	Current including previously paid in advance.	Arrear.	Advance for future year.	Total.	Current.	Arrear.	Total.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Twenty-four Parganas—													
Road cess ...	1,19,108	20,583	1,39,691	1,01,305	18,046	4,129	1,23,480	17,603	2,537	20,340	50	20,290	145
Public Works cess ...	1,19,128	20,583	1,39,691	1,01,305	18,046	4,129	1,23,480	17,603	2,537	20,340	51	20,289	145
Total ...	2,38,236	41,166	2,79,392	2,02,610	36,092	8,258	2,46,960	35,006	5,074	40,680	101	40,579	145
Nadia—													
Road cess ...	77,483	10,518	88,001	69,044	10,086	391	80,431	7,599	422	7,961	10	7,951	99
Public Works cess ...	77,483	10,518	88,001	69,044	10,086	391	80,431	7,599	422	7,961	10	7,951	99
Total ...	1,54,966	21,036	1,76,002	1,38,088	20,172	782	1,60,962	15,078	844	15,922	20	15,902	99
Murshidabad—													
Road cess ...	72,209	19,036	91,245	64,335	10,287	2,872	77,494	7,904	8,749	16,653	2,840	13,813	...
Public Works cess ...	72,210	19,035	91,245	64,336	10,287	2,871	77,494	7,904	8,748	16,652	2,840	13,812	...
Total ...	1,44,419	38,071	1,82,490	1,28,671	20,574	5,743	1,54,928	15,808	17,497	33,305	5,680	27,625	181
Jessore—													
Road cess ...	92,983	11,558	1,04,541	70,291	9,813	3,633	83,737	14,092	1,745	15,837	155	15,682	174
Public Works cess ...	92,984	11,558	1,04,542	70,291	9,814	3,633	83,738	14,093	1,744	15,837	152	15,685	174
Total ...	1,85,967	23,116	2,09,083	1,40,582	19,627	7,266	1,70,575	33,385	3,489	36,874	305	36,569	174
Khulna—													
Road cess ...	79,682	6,043	85,725	72,190	5,432	2,176	79,798	7,462	1,517	9,009	798	8,211	...
Public Works cess ...	79,683	6,043	85,726	72,189	5,432	2,176	79,797	7,463	1,516	9,009	798	8,211	...
Total ...	1,59,365	12,086	1,71,451	1,44,379	10,864	4,352	1,59,595	14,925	3,033	18,018	1,596	16,422	96
Grand Total—													
Road cess ...	4,41,445	68,844	5,10,289	3,84,035	53,674	13,221	4,50,930	57,430	14,970	72,400	3,461	68,939	...
Public Works cess ...	4,41,467	68,842	5,10,309	3,84,035	53,676	13,220	4,50,930	57,432	14,967	72,399	3,461	68,938	...
Grand Total for the Division.	8,82,912	1,37,686	10,20,598	7,68,070	1,07,349	26,441	9,01,860	1,14,862	29,937	1,44,799	7,702	1,37,097	184

There has been a slight increase in the demand of cesses shared by the Twenty-four Parganas, Nadia, Jessore, and Khulna, while Murshidabad shows a decrease. In Nadia and Jessore the increase is nominal. The increase is large in the Twenty-four Parganas and Khulna, and is due to the revaluation and new assessment of certain estates and tenures. The decrease in Murshidabad is due to the cancelment of double assessments, to abatements on

account of untraced rent-free tenures, and to the exemption of lands falling within municipal limits. The collections of current demand fell off in all districts, except in the Twenty-four Parganas and Nadia, while there has been a decrease in the collections of arrears in all districts, except in Nadia and Murshidabad. The total collections, however, both on account of current and arrear, are better than in the preceding year, being 88·39 against 87·9 per cent. in 1895-96. A large portion of the arrears is due from the districts of the Twenty-four Parganas, Murshidabad and Jessore. Revaluation is in progress in the Twenty-four Parganas, and has been completed in Jessore. Partial revaluations are in progress in Khulna. A completion report of the revaluation of one revenue-paying, six revenue-free, one *izad* estate under section 37 of the Cess Act and of one estate under section 13, which resulted in an increase of Rs. 5,413-9-5 in the district of Murshidabad, was submitted to the Board.

XXIII.—RAILWAYS AND OTHER PUBLIC WORKS.

40. In the Twenty-four Parganas, 121½ miles of the Eastern Bengal State Railway, including branches to Budge-Budge, Port Canning, and Diamond Harbour, are open for traffic. The proposal to construct a steam tramway from Barasat to Basirhat, referred to in my last report, is still under the consideration of the District Board. As regards the construction of a steam tramway from Ranaghat to Krishnagar, in the district of Nadia, Messrs. Martin & Co., the promoters of the scheme, have applied for a further extension by nine months of the period for the completion of the tramway. As the work has been retarded by the state of the money market, Government has granted an extension of six months, with effect from the 16th of March 1897, for construction, and from the 16th of December 1897 for completion and equipment of the line. The district of Murshidabad is not well served as regards railway communications, the Azimganj-Nalhati branch of the East Indian Railway being the only line that runs through it. The survey of a proposed line from Ranaghat, on the Eastern Bengal Railway, through Krishnagar to Bhagwangola was sanctioned during the year. Such a line would supersede the tramway to Krishnagar, and would in my opinion be very useful. No new railways were constructed in Jessore or Khulna. The portions of the Bengal Central Railway which pass through these districts were maintained. A survey was made for a proposed line from Singhia in Jessore to Madaripur. Another survey for a line from Kissenganj, on the Eastern Bengal Railway, to Magura in Jessore, *via* Kotechandpur, has been in progress for some months. Such a line would be decidedly useful.

41. *Embankments, drainage sluices, &c.*—In the Twenty-four Parganas, Rs. 23,825 were spent in maintaining 216½ miles of schedule D and 2 miles 1,320 feet of tuccavi embankments, against Rs. 21,288 in the previous year, and Rs. 1,514 in constructing retired lines of embankment against Rs. 4,745. There are 67 irrigation and drainage sluices, of which 48 are maintained by Government, four by the Calcutta Corporation, and fifteen at the cost of the zamindars concerned. Twelve cuts were allowed in embankments for drainage and three for irrigation. Besides these, three cuts were made surreptitiously. Drainage sluices at Satpukur, Kulpi and Bindal, and an irrigation sluice at Tellari, were under construction, the total expenditure incurred during the year being Rs. 1,40,472. In Murshidabad the Public Works Department worked strenuously to keep the Bhagirathi embankment in proper order when the river rose during the rains, and protective spurs have been constructed. A retired line of embankment about six miles in length at Bhagwangola is now in course of construction. In Jessore, the excavation of the Bhawanipur khal was commenced at a cost of Rs. 8,293, of which Rs. 7,293 were raised by local subscription through Mr. Shirreff, an indigo planter, and the rest was contributed by the District Board. No irrigation or drainage works have been constructed in Nadia or Khulna.

42. *Buildings.*—No buildings of any importance were constructed during the year in the Twenty-four Parganas, Nadia or Khulna. The District Board

of Murshidabad constructed an inspection bungalow at Salkiya on the Kandi road. In Jessore, the most important works were the construction of record racks for the Judge's Court at a cost of Rs. 5,313, and of a new record-room for the Narail Munsifi at a cost of Rs. 1,045.

43. *Sanitation, water-supply and miscellaneous public improvements.*—In the Twenty-four Parganas, the District Board expended Rs. 7,904 against Rs. 2,689 in the preceding year on water-supply. Of this sum, Rs. 1,249 were spent in sinking 28 wells, Rs. 1,838 in the excavation of three tanks, and Rs. 4,817 were given out in 194 cases as grants-in-aid to villagers for the purpose of re-excavating tanks. Rupees 2,687 were spent in making sanitary arrangements for the Saugor and Harwa *mélas*, Rs. 876 in clearing weeds from the Nowdi Nadi, and Rs. 854 in putting up spurs and culverts on the Soonti Nadi in the Barasat subdivision. In Nadia, Rs. 1,993 were spent in sinking wells. Rupees 2,719 were spent in Murshidabad in improving the water-supply: Rs. 735 in maintaining two drainage channels, and Rs. 550 in constructing two pairs of *mar* boats for ferries. In Jessore, Rs. 1,833 were spent in excavating four tanks and Rs. 776 in sinking 181 *kutchas* wells, and in deepening the well within the compound of the Jessore Jail. The District Board of Khulna expended Rs. 2,349 in excavating two tanks, one at Naldi and the other at Mulghur.

XXIV.—COMMUNICATIONS.

44. *Roads.*—Eighty-five miles of Provincial roads were maintained by the District Board of the Twenty-four Parganas at a cost of Rs. 59,033. The average expenditure per mile was Rs. 692 against Rs. 755 in the previous year. The condition of these roads is said to be generally satisfactory. The maintenance of 150 miles of district roads, metalled and bridged, cost the Board Rs. 56,324, or Rs. 375 per mile, against Rs. 430 in the previous year. These roads are said to have been kept in fair order throughout the year. A sum of Rs. 10,564 was spent in maintaining 260½ miles of district unmetalled and bridged roads, and 47 miles of unmetalled roads with temporary bridges, showing an average expenditure of Rs. 34 per mile against Rs. 46 in the previous year. These unmetalled roads are under the management of Local Boards, and are said to be generally in passable order. There were also 992½ miles of village roads under the management of Local Boards, the maintenance of which cost Rs. 13,016 during the year. The District Board spent Rs. 8,658 on original works against Rs. 28,417 in the previous year. The most important work was the construction of a road from Kulpi to channel creek, which cost Rs. 7,734 during the year. In Nadia, the District Board spent Rs. 13,481 on original works, the most important being the improvement of the railway feeder road from Hansdaha to Kissenganj, which cost Rs. 10,834. The expenditure incurred in the maintenance of the different classes of district roads was Rs. 30,829 against Rs. 51,429 in the previous year, and of village roads Rs. 685 against Rs. 2,626. The decrease is due to provision having been made from the sums originally allotted for the maintenance of unmetalled and village roads from famine relief expenditure in the district during the year. There were altogether 1,695½ miles of roads in the district of Murshidabad. The expenditure incurred on the maintenance of 24 miles of metalled and bridged roads was Rs. 9,916, that on 213 miles of unmetalled and bridged roads was Rs. 11,676, on 100½ miles of unmetalled roads with temporary bridges Rs. 4,328, and on 206 miles of low level roads Rs. 6,987. The maintenance of 398 miles of village roads cost Rs. 4,801. A sum of Rs. 4,236 was spent by the District Board in raising and improving the district and village roads. In Jessore, 41 miles of Provincial roads were maintained at a cost of Rs. 14,812, exclusive of establishment charges, which amounted to Rs. 1,607. Rs. 26,709 were spent in the maintenance and repairs of 106 miles of district metalled and bridged roads. Rs. 8,081 on 190 miles of unmetalled bridged roads. Rs. 4,261 on 192 miles of unmetalled roads with temporary bridges, and Rs. 4,261 on 137 miles of village roads. Rs. 7,827 were spent in the construction of district roads, bridges and causeways, and Rs. 2,371 in the construction of village roads. In this district encroachments on roads by private individuals appear to have been going on for years. Steps were taken by Mr. Hamilton in the cold

weather to recover lost ground. The district of Khulna is intersected by numerous rivers and khals, and communication is principally carried on by water. There were 410 miles of district roads and 562 miles of village roads in the previous year. Several new roads have been added during the year in the area affected by famine. Rupees 13,527 were spent in bridging, metalling and constructing roads.

45. In the Twenty-four Parganas 189 new mahogany trees were planted along the different roads during the year, and the existing trees were maintained at a total cost of Rs. 909 against Rs. 1,950 in the previous year. There are about 15,889 trees along provincial and district roads. The Nadia District Board spent Rs. 590 on arboriculture against Rs. 675 in the previous year. In Murshidabad Rs. 175 were spent in planting and rearing trees on roadsides. In Jessore 1,700 rain trees were planted on the sides of different roads at a total cost of Rs. 912, including the maintenance charges of the existing trees, against Rs. 1,301 in the previous year. Rupees 291 were spent by the District Board of Khulna in planting trees on roadsides.

46. In the Twenty-four Parganas the circular canals (ten miles in length) and Tolly's Nala, including Kawrapukurkhal (thirty-seven miles), were maintained at a cost of Rs. 34,193 against Rs. 44,574 in 1895-96, while the gross revenue from tolls on these two canals was Rs. 4,25,145 against Rs. 4,32,701 in the preceding year. A scheme for canalizing the Bhangor khal was sanctioned last year, and the work is in progress. During the year 1,336 steamers passed through the Sundarban channels against 1,482 in the previous year, yielding a gross revenue of Rs. 6,680 in tolls against Rs. 7,410 in 1895-96. There are also two khals (17 miles) in this district. The one between Mograhat and Jainagar is navigable throughout the year. The Sarisa khal is navigable only during the rains. These are maintained by the District Board and are reported to be in fair condition. In Murshidabad a ferry steamer belonging to Messrs. Hoare, Miller and Company plied twice daily for a few months between Azimganj and Berhampur. A steamer of the East Indian Railway Company plied for some months thrice a week between Azimganj and Dhulian and another steamer of Messrs. Hoare, Miller & Company plied between Calcutta and Jangipur during a part of the year. There is a steamer service between Jhinkargacha and Kapilmani, which passes through portions of the Jessore and Khulna districts and another steamer service between Khulna and Barisal, a distance of 35 miles. During part of the year a steamer ran between Khulna and Gopalganj in the Faridpur district.

XXX.—LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT INSTITUTION.

57. The Bengal Local Self-Government Act III of 1885 has been in operation in this Division for eleven years. In the Twenty-four Parganas the District Board was reconstituted in the beginning of the year under report. The Board held sixteen meetings, including four special meetings, against twelve in the previous year. The increase in the number of meetings is attributed to certain special meetings convened for considering the proposed Basirhat tramway. The average attendance at each meeting was 72 per cent., against 57 in the previous year. Besides the general meetings of the Board, the Finance and Education sub-committees each met nine times during the year. The following table shows the number of meetings held by the Local Boards and the average attendance of members at each meeting during the year:—

Name of Local Board.	Number of meetings held.	Average attendance at each meeting.
Alipore	14	6.7
Diamond Harbour	14	5.8
Barasat	13	8.4
Basirhat	14	3.4

58. In all the Local Boards, except Basirhat, there was an increase in the number of meetings held, but, with the exception of the Barasat Local Board, the average attendance at each meeting decreased. As in the previous year, these Local Boards were presided over by non-official chairmen. During

the year under report, three Union Committees were established, and they are said to have worked well. In Nadia the District Board held seventeen meetings against sixteen in the previous year, the average attendance of members at each meeting being 12·94, against 11·3 in the previous year. There were four Local Boards in the district, three of which were, as in the previous year, presided over by non-official Chairmen. The number of meetings held by the Local Boards during the year, and the average attendance of members at each meeting, are shown in the following table:—

Name of Local Board.				Number of meetings held.	Average attendance at each meeting.
Sadar	...	...	...	11	4·81
Kushtiya	...	...	...	7	6·33
Meherpur	...	...	...	10	4·70
Itanaghat	...	...	...	13	5·61

59. The number of meetings held fell off in all the Local Boards except the Sadar, but the average attendance in all of them improved. It is, however, not satisfactory to note that three meetings in each of the Sadar and Meherpur Local Boards, and one meeting in each of the other two Local Boards, failed for want of a quorum. There were four Union Committees in the district during the year under report. The District Board of Murshidabad held ten meetings during the year, against fourteen in the previous year. Although the number of meetings fell off owing to the Magistrate's not calling any more meetings, the average attendance at each improved, being 13·7, against 9·35 in the previous year. Of the three Local Boards, the Deputy Magistrate in charge of the subdivision was chairman of the Kandi Board, the chairmen of those at Sadar and Jangipur were non-official. The number of meetings held, and the average attendance at each meeting, are shown in the subjoined table:—

Name of Local Board.				Number of meetings held.	Average attendance at each meeting.
Sadar	...	...	...	10	9·8
Jangipur	...	...	...	19	4·36
Kandi	...	...	...	7	6·7

The number of meetings held fell off in the Kandi Board, while it improved in the other two; the average attendance, however, showed a general improvement. It is unsatisfactory to note that in the Sadar Board two meetings, and in the Jangipur Board four meetings, failed for want of a quorum. There were four Union Committees in the district during the year under report. The District Board of Jessore held eighteen meetings, against thirteen in the previous year. The average attendance at each meeting was 15·4, against 11·5 in the previous year. The subjoined table shows the number of meetings held by the five Local Boards and the average attendance of the members at each meeting:—

Name of Local Board.				Number of meetings held.	Average attendance at each meeting.
Sadar	...	...	...	17	5·4
Narail	...	...	...	10	7·1
Magura	...	...	...	12	5·08
Jhenidah	...	...	...	12	4·3
Bangaon	...	...	...	12	5·3

The number of meetings fell off in the Local Board of Narail, while in Magura the number of meetings remained the same as in the previous year; in the others it increased. The average attendance improved in the Local Boards of Narail and Magura, and fell off in those of Sadar and Bangaon. During the year there were five Union Committees in the five subdivisions under the five Local Boards. In Khulna the District Board held seventeen meetings during the year, against fifteen in the previous year, the average attendance at each being 9·8 against 11·4 in the previous year. The following statement shows the number of meetings held by the three Local Boards in the district and the average attendance of members at each meeting:—

Name of Local Board.				Number of meetings held.	Average attendance.
Sadar	...	...	...	9	6
Bagerhat	...	...	...	8	8·25
Satkhira	...	...	...	6	6·4

The number of meetings fell off in the Local Boards of the Sadar and Satkhira, while it increased in that of Bagerhat. The average attendance improved in the Local Boards of Sadar and Bagerhat, while in the other it slightly fell off. There were six Union Committees in the district. The subjoined statement shows the expenditure incurred by each District Board on sanitation and water-supply, medical relief, and primary education, for the past three years :—

Districts.	Year.	Sanitation and water-supply.	Medical relief.	Primary education.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
24-Parganas	1894-95	4,591	1,277	21,920
	1895-96	6,909	1,636	31,751
	1896-97	12,751	1,832	36,421
Nadia	1894-95	3,846	1,355	21,906
	1895-96	2,662	1,639	20,002
	1896-97	3,116	1,774	19,217
Murshidabad	1894-95	3,540	1,165	17,020
	1895-96	1,772	1,185	15,580
	1896-97	3,456	1,160	15,876
Jessore	1894-95	2,703	3,703	22,766
	1895-96	1,218	4,645	22,361
	1896-97	3,880	5,465	23,298
Khulna	1894-95	2,069	1,026	16,713
	1895-96	656	2,801	18,553
	1896-97	2,469	2,573	15,190

Expenditure on sanitation and water-supply has increased in all the districts; that on medical relief has increased in the Twenty-four Parganas, Nadia and Jessore, while it has fallen off in Murshidabad and Khulna. Expenditure on primary education has increased in all the districts except Nadia, where it has fallen off. The following is a summary of the views of the District Officers on the working of the District and Local Boards and Union Committees:—

Twenty-four Parganas.—The District Board has worked smoothly and successfully. The members generally are said to have continued to take an interest in the performance of their duties. The Local Boards have continued to administer the grants for village roads, district unmetalled roads and pounds, and the Magistrate reports that their administration with regard to these matters has been generally successful. Of the three Union Committees, that of Basudebpur is said to have worked satisfactorily, the chairman and the members having taken considerable interest in the performance of their duties. The other two Union Committees are said to have worked tolerably well. *Nadia.*—The members of the District Board are said to have generally taken interest in their work. The Local Boards have continued to administer the grants for pounds, ferries and village roads. The Magistrate reports a considerable improvement in the manner in which they managed the pounds, and the members are said to have taken more interest in their work than they did in previous years. The Union Committees practically did no work, almost the whole of their income having been devoted to famine relief. *Murshidabad.*—The District Board has worked satisfactorily and, as a consultative body, continues to be useful. The members have worked harmoniously with the official Chairman, and are said to have rendered useful assistance, both in the discussion of measures and in their execution. The Local Boards were of little use, their scope being limited and the nature of the work uninteresting; and they might as well be abolished and replaced by Union Committees under the direct supervision of the District Board. The Union Committees were entrusted with funds for the repair of the village roads within their respective jurisdiction. It is too early yet to judge of their usefulness or efficiency, but it is reported that the limited funds made over to them were judiciously expended. *Jessore.*—The work of the District Board went on smoothly, and the non-official members took interest in the work of the Board. *Khulna.*—The Local Self-Government Act works on the whole satisfactorily, and many of the members of the Board take considerable interest in their work. The Chairman reports that he receives great assistance from

many individual members, and, as a body, the District Board are anxious to assist the executive officers in any sound work, although they are said to be inclined to spend an unduly large amount on education. The Chairman advocates the formation of more Union Committees, as they are said to do really good work. Another year's experience has only confirmed me in the opinion that Local Boards are not wanted, and that it would be a great improvement if Union Committees were to work directly under the District Boards. My views on this subject have been stated at length on more than one previous occasion. The management of pounds by local authorities has in past years been as feeble as it was possible to be, and it is interesting to observe how an improvement in the administration of this department has followed the discovery that road-cess money is not to be spent on the education of children of the higher classes, and that, if the local authorities allow the revenue from pounds to fall off, the education in which they take an interest must suffer. They care little for the fate of primary education. The following table shows the extent to which road-cess money has been spent on education during the last five years:—

Table showing the extent to which Road-cess money has been spent on education during the five years ending 1896-97.

DISTRICT.	Year.	Income available from pounds, ferries, schools, Government grant, &c.	Amount spent on primary education.	Amount spent on other education.	Total expenditure on education generally.	Balance taken from road-cess money.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Twenty-four Parganas.	1892-93	44,553	31,507	11,730	43,237	.....
	1893-94	45,127	29,366	12,083	41,355	.....
	1894-95	43,009	29,120	12,241	41,401	.....
	1895-96	50,162	37,751	13,181	44,932	.....
	1896-97	49,863	35,421	13,655	49,076	.....
Nadia	1892-93	30,385	17,507	12,160	29,667	.....
	1893-94	31,706	16,337	12,070	28,407	.....
	1894-95	36,557	21,906	12,474	34,382	.....
	1895-96	33,018	20,601	12,630	33,291	273
	1896-97	30,510	19,217	11,857	31,074	564
Murshidabad...	1892-93	22,436	16,067	5,846	21,913	.....
	1893-94	23,252	16,035	5,965	22,020	.....
	1894-95	24,488	17,020	5,891	22,911	.....
	1895-96	20,458	15,580	5,859	21,439	981
	1896-97	22,382	15,876	5,297	21,173	.....
Jessore	1892-93	32,306	22,253	12,693	34,946	2,640
	1893-94	34,071	21,067	12,743	33,801	.....
	1894-95	35,725	23,588	12,108	35,696	.....
	1895-96	29,623	22,361	11,988	34,359	4,786
	1896-97	34,104	23,298	12,285	35,583	1,479
Khulna	1892-93	28,203	16,964	10,504	27,468	.....
	1893-94	29,989	17,127	10,648	27,875	.....
	1894-95	29,186	17,091	12,339	29,430	244
	1895-96	30,273	18,853	11,544	30,397	124
	1896-97	29,671	19,190	8,776	27,966	.....

Municipalities.

60. There were altogether 40 municipalities in the division towards the close of the year, against 38 in the previous year, showing an increase of two in the number. During the year under report, the municipality at Chanduriya in Khulna was abolished, while three new municipalities were formed, viz., (1) Garuliya, by separation from the North Barrackpore Municipality, (2) Garden Reach, by separation from the South Suburban Municipality, and (3) Azimganj by separation from the Lalbagh Municipality. The elective system is in force in all the municipalities except Khulna, Debbhatta, Chagdah, Titagarh, Garden Reach, and Garuliya, where the Commissioners are all appointed by Government.

In the seven municipalities noted on the margin* the chairman is appointed by Government. General elections were held towards the close of the year in 31 municipalities. There was no failure of election in any one of them. In Ward No. II of the Baduriya Municipality the election was invalidated by the Magistrate on objection, owing to some irregularities in the proceedings, and a date has been fixed for a fresh election. The election was not held in three wards of the Santipur Municipality, in consequence of an injunction issued by the Civil Court on petition of three candidates, whose names were excluded from the final list of candidates. The cases are still pending. On reference the Government has decided, on the strength of the opinion given by the Hon'ble the Advocate-General, that a Civil Court has no authority to issue an injunction, *ad-interim* or permanent, against the holding of an election under the rules framed in accordance with the provisions of an Act of the Bengal Council. In some of the municipalities the Boards of Commissioners have not yet been formed, owing to delay in the appointment of Government nominees, consequent on numerous petitions of objection in each case. The people seem to evince more interest now in the matter of selection of members than they used to. Bye elections were held in some of the municipalities. One of them having failed at Goverdanga in the district of the Twenty-four Parganas, the vacancy was filled up by nomination. The following statement shows the total income, including balance and expenditure, of the municipalities, as compared with the preceding year:—

DISTRICT.	Income.		Expenditure.		REMARKS.
	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Twenty-four Parganas ...	4,51,931	4,86,754	3,91,050	4,25,385	
Nadia ...	98,974	1,08,903	91,931	1,01,172	
Murshidabad ...	1,06,300	1,06,853	93,279	91,814	
Jessore ...	32,254	33,835	29,642	30,023	
Khulna ...	44,461	37,145	27,142	30,668	
TOTAL ...	7,33,920	7,73,490	6,33,044	6,79,062	
Increase ...	...	39,570	...	46,018	
Decrease ...	...	...	...	...

There is a discrepancy of 41 in the figures shown against "Total" in column 2 with those shown in the previous report, which is due to the adoption of corrected figures from the Annual Municipal Returns against Khulna. There has been a marked increase in both receipts and disbursements. The increase in the receipts is due to better collection and revision of assessments, and that in disbursements to larger expenditure in improvements. The following table shows the number of meetings held by each Municipality during the last two

years, and the average percentage of attendance of Municipal Commissioners at each meeting :—

NAME OF MUNICIPALITY.	Number of meetings held in—		Average percentage of attendance at each meeting.		REMARKS.
	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Cossipore-Chitpur ...	30	40	67·05	68·3	
Manicktollah ...	19	18	46·6	55·5	
Baranagore ...	14	19	63·1	64·4	
South Suburban ...	18	14	49·04	43·4	
Rajpur ...	15	11	70·7	63·6	
Baruipur ...	15	19	57·9	71·3	
Joynagore ...	20	14	59·2	50·	
South Dum-Dum ...	12	11	57·3	57·	
North Dum-Dum ...	16	16	58·3	60·4	
South Barraekpore ...	21	19	60·6	32·8	
North Barraekpore ...	12	11	53·2	57·1	
Barasat ...	15	15	47·9	44·	
Naihati ...	21	17	44·2	46·4	
Goverdanga ...	11	14	42·3	39·2	
Basirhat ...	25	25	44·2	40·5	
Baduriya ...	19	20	38·4	35·	
Taki ...	15	13	63·6	49·5	
Titagarh ...	18	16	72·2	61·1	
Garuliya ...	...	17	.....	62·7	
Garden Reach ...	...	1	.....	91·6	
Krishnagar ...	19	32	54·	30·9	
Santipur ...	25	28	47·6	52·	
Ranaghat ...	24	39	30·04	18·7	
Nadia ...	17	25	42·3	52·	
Kushtiya ...	19	18	39·2	48·5	
Kumerkhali ...	24	20	20·8	57·1	
Meherpur ...	17	22	31·1	74·4	
Birnagore ...	13	15	50·7	48·2	
Chakdaha ...	16	17	31·2	52·03	
Berhampore ...	12	19	46·	49·0	
Murshidabad ..	14	18	32·1	53·3	
Jangipur ...	17	21	33·1	37·5	
Kandi ...	20	21	45·4	54·5	
Azimganj ...	...	24	.....	58·8	
Jessore ...	19	15	45·7	39·3	
Kotechandpur ...	21	21	54·4	53·9	
Moheshpur ...	26	20	53·8	42·5	
Khulna ...	29	40	33·8	24·07	
Satkhira ...	21	21	42·8	45·4	
Debbatta ...	23	17	58·5	29·4	

It appears that in 19 municipalities, as against 21 of the previous year, less than 50 per cent. of the Commissioners were present at each meeting, and that in 21 municipalities against 13, the average percentage of attendance was over 50, which shows a little improvement. In the Twenty-four Parganas the Municipal Commissioners of Cossipore-Chitpur laid down 9,581 feet of water-pipe during the year at a cost of Rs. 7,085, with 19 new hydrants, and the Commissioners of Manicktolla 10,725 feet with 20 hydrants at a cost of Rs. 7,665. Mr. Walsh, Officiating Magistrate of the Twenty-four Parganas, remarks that the Municipal Commissioners appear to have taken an interest in their duties, though the large proportion of non-attendances shows that there are many Commissioners who are content with the title alone, and take no active interest in municipal affairs. The managers of the mills situated within the municipalities of Naihati, Garulia, Titagarh and Baranagore have taken an interest in municipal affairs, and helped the several municipalities with the mill resources. Mr. Walsh adds:—"The European element in a municipal committee has the effect of infusing vigour into the administration, and the committees in which there are European commissioners are also less affected by party factions." In Nadia bad collection is specially noticed. It is worse in larger municipalities than in the smaller ones. The state of collection in Krishnagar was deplorable. Evidently very little or no attention was paid by the municipal authorities to this subject. The Magistrate reports that it is the belief in Krishnagar that persons were not pressed for their taxes this year, as, owing to the closeness of the municipal elections, pressure on voters would have been prejudicial to Commissioners who wished to be re-elected. As I remarked last year the executive officers of a municipality dread, above all things, incurring the wrath of rate-payers and of the general body of Commissioners by raising or enforcing taxation. Mr. Levinge, the Magistrate of Murshidabad, adheres to his opinion, which is also shared by Mr. Garrett, the Officiating Magistrate of Nadia, that the control and supervision exercised over the subordinates in municipalities is often insufficient. Mr. Levinge, however, adds that in spite of these faults the municipalities in his district have done plenty of good work, and that the municipal authorities have generally followed the advice and instructions of inspecting officers, and that the relations between them and the controlling authorities have always been cordial and satisfactory. There is nothing special to note in regard to the other districts. The municipalities of Jessore and Khulna continued to be managed satisfactorily. As already remarked, the administration is generally successful where there is an active chairman or vice-chairman resident in the municipality. But this is wanting in many places, and the result is that the subordinates are uncontrolled, and collections are allowed to fall into arrears. To improve collections I have introduced in almost all the municipalities in this division a system of paying the agency for the collection of taxes by commission, instead of by fixed pay, and have been pressing for the adoption of coercive measures where necessary; but the Municipal Commissioners are very reluctant to act up to the advice, presumably for fear of incurring the displeasure of the rate-payers. The measures introduced have to some extent secured the desired object. Sanitary improvements are generally opposed both by Municipal Commissioners and by rate-payers, and in cases where the Municipal Commissioners decide to introduce reform, they are thwarted and opposed. This is particularly noticeable on the part of rich owners of bustees who are unwilling to spend anything on the improvement of their bustees themselves, and throw every impediment in the way of the Commissioners who wish to do so.

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XXXVII.—GENERAL REMARKS.

72. The most prominent feature in the history of the year under review is the early cessation of the rains following a deficient rainfall in the preceding year, causing failure of the crops and consequent distress. There has been actual famine in the districts of Nadia and Khulna, and severe distress approaching to famine in Murshidabad and Jessore, which commenced before the year closed, and has since become more intense. The distress from the want of

food-grains was intensified by a general scarcity of water for drinking and the result was that cholera broke out. In Khulna especially the death-rate has perceptibly increased. It was not so, however, in Nadia, where cholera was most apprehended. Mr. Garrett, the Officiating Collector, observes that the only matter of congratulation is that the district has escaped the severe visitation of cholera, which was universally anticipated. So far as we could judge, everything was in favour of a severe epidemic. The people were more weakened by insufficient food than last year, when fifteen thousand persons were carried off by cholera within a space of five months. Yet, notwithstanding all this, cholera practically at no time became epidemic, and has now ceased entirely.

* * * *

FAMINE RELIEF IN BENGAL.

No. 1854(Fam.), dated 25th September 1897.—The following papers are published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

No. 751T.R.(Fam.), dated Darjeeling, the 17th September 1897.

From—M. FINUCANE, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Dept.,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Dept.

In continuation of his Government's letter No. 1626Famine, dated the 20th August 1897, I am directed to submit, under section 29 of the Bengal Famine Code, the following report on relief operations in this Province during the four weeks ending on the 28th August 1897. A statement of rainfall and

* (1) No. 1791F.G., dated the 24th August 1897, with enclosures.

(2) No. 1880F.G., dated the 8th September 1897, with enclosures.

† Manbhum, Hazaribagh, Nadia, Khulna, Murshidabad.

the usual Famine Statements A and B are hereto appended. I am also to submit copies of the two half-monthly reports* of the Commissioner of the Patna Division for the period above mentioned. A consolidated famine map of the Patna Division is also enclosed, together with maps of the districts noted on the margin.†

2. *Patna Division. Prospects of crops, prices, &c.*—The rainfall in the district of Patna was excessive and resulted in floods and consequent damage to the *bhadoi* crop. The Collector estimates that half the crop has been destroyed, the Barh subdivision having suffered most. The Commissioner, however, thinks that this is not of serious consequence, as the *bhadoi* in this district is always a harvest of a precarious character. It is stated that the average outturn of the autumn crops for the last 10 years is 9·14 annas, while in the years 1888-89 and 1890-91 the outturn was less than 4 annas. Owing possibly to the damage done to the *bhadoi* crops, prices in this district showed no tendency to fall. The rainfall in Gaya was also heavy, but did little or no damage, except that a considerable portion of the maize crop has been lost, the estimated outturn being 8 annas. *Marua* has been grown over an unusually large area this year, and is expected to yield a bumper crop. Prices in this district are reported to have a slightly downward tendency.

3. As regards the other districts of the Division, the first week of August was marked by heavy rain in many places, and was followed by a week or ten days of comparatively fine weather, such as was required for the *bhadoi* crops. The second fortnight was a period of anxiety for the western part of the Bettiah subdivision of Champaran, the Sitamarhi subdivision of Muzaffarpur, and the Madhubani subdivision of Darbhanga. The rainfall was insufficient, and a good deal of the winter rice remained to be transplanted; but copious rain has since fallen, and has greatly improved the situation in all these tracts. The outturn of the *bhadoi* crops in Shahabad is estimated at 14 annas. In the four districts north of the Ganges, these crops are reported to be above the average, and to have come well on to the market. With regard to the winter rice, the Commissioner, writing on the 8th September, says that it has been planted out everywhere and gives excellent promise. Mr. Bourdillon is of opinion that with a good fall during the Hathiya asterism (at the end of September) this crop should yield more than an average return, but that even if the Hathiya rain fails, or is short, there is reason to think that a fair crop will still be reaped. Prices had at last begun to fall everywhere, except in Shahabad, where they are reported to have been practically

stationary at the end of the period under report; and the commoner food-grains were much cheaper than during the latter half of July. The prices of *marua*

			Imports.	Exports.
			Mds.	Mds.
First	half month	...	4,69,723	79,974
Second	"	...	3,12,879	67,296
Total		...	7,82,602	1,47,270

In July the total imports were 9,79,105 maunds and the total exports 3,01,628 maunds.
(These figures include Gaya and Patna districts.)

continued to be the staple import, and considerable quantities continued to be imported from Howrah, though they were smaller than in the previous months.

On the 7th August a conference was held at Bankipore by the Commissioner with the District Officers to discuss the prospects of the crops, the condition of the people, and the steps to be taken to close the relief operations. The instructions drawn up at this conference have since been approved by the Lieutenant-Governor and circulated to the affected districts in other Divisions. Briefly they are that where there is good *bhadoi*, relief works should all be closed by the 1st September, but that in tracts with little or no *bhadoi* they might, if necessary, be kept open till the middle of the month. Gratuitous relief must continue for some time after the relief works are closed, but should be cut down in tracts where the *bhadoi* crops are good. Kitchens are to be opened for children and for all remaining recipients of gratuitous relief, excepting those who are physically incapable of coming to the kitchens. It is expected that it will be possible to close all kinds of gratuitous relief by the 1st October.

4. *Area and population affected and numbers on relief.*—With the new *bhadoi* grain in the market and with good prospects of the great winter rice crop, there was a general improvement in the condition of the affected tracts, but except in parts of Saran no area was declared entirely free from distress. In this district in an area of 366 square miles with a population of 342,800 all relief operations were closed about the 20th August. The total affected area was thus reduced to 1,146 square miles with a population of 1,073,200, but relief works were open only in 563 square miles with a population of 509,880 persons, the relief operations in the remaining area being confined to gratuitous relief (including relief given in kitchens). In Champaran an area of 1,400 square miles with a population of about one million has been removed from the category of acute to that of slight distress, thus raising the slightly distressed area to 2,831 square miles with a population of 1,584,000, and reducing the area still severely affected to about 700 square miles with an estimated population of 275,000; this tract lies in thanas Hardih and Bagaha, in the north of the Bettiah subdivision, where comparatively little *bhadoi* is grown.

The following table shows the numbers and percentages of population on relief from the second-half of May, when the largest percentage of population was in receipt of relief:—

	29TH MAY.		12TH JUNE.		26TH JUNE.		10TH JULY.		31ST JULY.		14TH AUGUST.		29TH AUGUST.	
DISTRICT.	Numbers on relief.	Percentage on population of affected area.	Numbers on relief.	Percentage on population of affected area.	Numbers on relief.	Percentage on population of affected area.	Numbers on relief.	Percentage on population of affected area.	Numbers on relief.	Percentage on population of affected area.	Numbers on relief.	Percentage on population of affected area.	Numbers on relief.	Percentage on population of affected area.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Shahabad ...	33,488	8.76	30,801	8.06	22,094	6.32	23,347	6.11	23,901	6.24	21,163	5.54	17,518	4.58
Saran ...	89,229	6.29	84,813	5.98	68,879	4.89	67,003	4.73	79,377	5.5	75,601	5.33	63,016	5.00
Champaran ...	101,975	10.37	104,927	10.47	142,283	7.64	110,353	5.99	65,089	3.54	84,830	2.62	41,449	2.21
Muzaffarpur ...	124,415	7.49	116,137	7.60	104,064	6.26	113,273	6.82	101,436	6.14	95,816	5.74	68,208	4.10
Darbhanga ...	279,901	12.12	279,354	11.50	234,623	9.70	245,368	10.07	174,621	7.81	129,525	5.79	108,480	5.14
Total ...	711,050	9.41	709,032	9.3	571,943	7.6	5,0,142	7.4	445,030	5.0	373,444	4.90	290,271	4.2

These numbers, which show a considerable reduction in every district, are as given in the weekly telegraphic reports published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, corrected up to date.

5. *Relief works.*—The relief works open on the 28th August were:—

	Under Civil Officers.	Under the Public Works Department.	Total.
Shahabad	Nil	Nil	Nil.
Saran	29	Nil	29
Champan	15	20	35
Muzaffarpur	43	Nil	43
Darbhanga	49	4	53
Total	136	24	160

The total number of works at the end of July was 277, of which 84 were under the Public Works Department in the districts of Champan, Muzaffarpur, and Darbhanga, and the rest under civil officers. In Saran the number of works has since been reduced to four. The Collector of Champan wrote on 3rd September that practically all the works except the Tribeni Canal and one section of the Bettiah-Bagaha Railway would be closed during that week. As already stated, works will speedily be closed in other districts. When the Commissioner wrote, orders had been issued for work on the Sakri-Jainagar Railway line to be closed on the 10th instant.

The following table shows the numbers on relief works on 28th August in comparison with those on 31st July:—

DISTRICT.	31ST JULY.		28TH AUGUST.	
	Number.	Percentage on population of affected area.	Number.	Percentage on population of affected area.
1	2	3	4	5
Saran	18,410	1.3	11,178	1.03
Champan	15,070	0.81	12,274	0.66
Muzaffarpur	34,564	2.08	19,774	1.19
Darbhanga	57,520	2.5	14,206	0.63
Total	125,568	1.6	57,432	.88

The following table shows the results of task-work as regards outturn, wages and cost, in the second half of August and in the corresponding of period of July:—

DISTRICT.	AVERAGE DAILY WAGE OF ADULT MALE UNIT.				AVERAGE OUTTURN OF WORK PER ADULT MALE UNIT ON TASK-WORK.		COST RATE PER 1,000 C. FT.	
	Second half of July.		Second half of August.		Second half of July.	Second half of August.	Second half of July.	Second half of August.
	Task work.	Irrespective of task.	Task work.	Irrespective of task.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Saran	A. P. 1 8½	A. P. 1 7	A. P. 1 7	A. P. 1 6	C. ft. 51	C. ft. 44.5	Rs. A. P. 2 0 2	Rs. A. P. 2 3 3½
Champan	1 7½	1 9	1 7	1 10	43	54.67	2 6 7	1 13 8½
Muzaffarpur	1 5	1 6	1 5½	1 7	60.5	95.17	1 7 4	0 15 10½
Darbhanga	1 8½	1 8	1 7½	1 9½	30	47.12	2 8 4	2 1 6

Except in Saran, there was an increase in the outturn of work and decrease in the cost rate per 1,000 cubic feet, due mainly to the increased softness of

the soil and reduction in the famine wages owing to fall in prices. The increase in the cost-rate per 1,000 cubic feet in Saran is attributed by the Collector to the fact that task work was practically confined to the rice tracts recently flooded where water was standing in the burrow pits, and the earth for road work had to be obtained from some distance. Since the fall in prices the wages have been everywhere reduced.

6. *Piece-work system.*—The Bya nalla work in Muzaffarpur, on which the piece-work system was in force, was closed during the second-half of August. In Darbhanga this system was in force on the Sakri-Jainagar Railway. In Champaran, besides the Tribeni Canal and the Bettiah-Bagaha Railway, on which the piece-work system had been previously introduced, the Collector substituted piece-work for task work on all works except those about to be closed. This was done in accordance with the principle enunciated in paragraph 132 of the Famine Commissioner's Report, Part I, that at the end of a famine, if any able-bodied labourers are disinclined to go back to their ordinary work, a system of piece work may be used with lowered rates to induce them to go. The rates were lowered to Re. 1-6-6 and Re. 1-11-8 (with dressing) per 1,000 cubic feet, but the Collector reports that the labourers, even without this reduction, showed no disinclination to leave relief works, whether conducted on the task-work or on the piece-work system, wherever other employment was available.

7. *Private relief works.*—The Hatwa Raj had two works open in Saran, which employed a daily average of 646 male units in the last week of August, but these were avowedly being carried on as being necessary for purposes of communication and not for famine relief. The Darbhanga Raj works in the district of Darbhanga employed 1,488 labourers on the 31st August, against 2,780 at the end of July. No other private relief works are reported to have been open. The numbers employed on the Moghalsarai-Gaya Railway in Shahabad

31st July	...	...	6,918
7th August	...	...	5,188
14th "	...	...	5,461
21st "	...	...	3,527
28th "	...	...	3,654

were as noted on the margin.

8. *Poor-houses and kitchens.*—The number of Government poor-houses and kitchens open at the end of August was as follows:—

DISTRICT.	POOR-HOUSES.		KITCHENS.		Total average daily number received in poor-houses and kitchens.
	Number of poor-houses.	Number of inmates.	Number of kitchens.	Average daily number fed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Shahabad ...	2	258	4	408	666
Saran ...	2	173	48	8,435	8,608
Champaran ...	7	1,210	99	10,584	11,794
Muzaffarpur ...	6	368	73	13,273	13,641
Darbhangha ...	8	1,047	53	15,451	16,498
Total ...	25	3,056	277	48,151	51,207

As compared with the numbers at the end of July, the number of poor-houses decreased by two, one in Shahabad and one in Darbhanga having been closed. The number of kitchens was largely increased in order to carry out the policy decided on for the purpose of bringing relief operations to a close. The numbers fed in kitchens consisted mostly of children; the percentage of children on the total number fed being—

Shahabad	...	...	...	...	37.0
Saran	...	...	...	...	98.2
Champaran	...	...	...	...	53.3
Muzaffarpur	...	...	...	...	88.1
Darbhangha	...	...	...	...	88.2

9. *Gratuitous relief.*—The numbers on gratuitous relief have fallen, but not to the same extent as those on relief works. The following table shows the average daily numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief, and the amounts of the average daily doles in the last week of August in comparison with the corresponding figures at the end of July:—

DISTRICT.	Average daily number in the last week of July.		Average daily number in the last week of August.		Average dole per adult unit.	
	Total number.	Percentage of population of affected area.	Total number.	Percentage of population of affected area.	Second half of July.	Second half of August.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Shahabad	23,807	6.2	17,579	4.7	As. P. 0 11½	As. P. 0 11
Saran	58,000	4.16	43,860	4.08	0 9	0 9
Champanan	50,915	2.7	29,175	1.5	1 0½	1 0½
Muzaffarpur	60,007	4.03	47,071	2.9	0 10½	0 11
Darbhanga	29,571	4.4	76,788	3.4	0 10½	0 10.85
Total	300,190	3.9	215,677	2.6	.....	.....

• These figures have been reproduced from column 11 of Famine Statement A. •

10. *Physical condition of the people, &c.*—The physical condition of the people was generally good, and the condition of the cattle normal.

11. *Loans.*—The season for village relief works by private individuals had passed, and very little was given away as advances under the modified rules under the Land Improvement Loans Act. The following are revised figures furnished by the Commissioner under this head:—

DISTRICT.				Amount advanced up to 31st March 1897.	Amount advanced during the current year.	Total.
1				2	3	4
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Shahabad	...	...	...	1,950	19,755	21,705
Saran	...	...	...	9,952	13,860	23,812
Champanan	...	...	...	300	5,869	6,169
Muzaffarpur	...	...	...	3,100	6,959	10,059
Darbhanga	...	...	...	1,413	17,548	18,961
Total	...	...	...	16,715	63,991	80,706

The amounts advanced under the Agriculturists' Loans Acts are shown in column 11 of Famine Statement B.

12. *Chota Nagpur Division.*—During the first week of August, there was copious rain in all the districts of the Chota Nagpur Division, and especially in Palamau, where it was greatly needed; plentiful rain again fell in the week ending 21st August, which enabled the transplantation of winter rice to be completed throughout the Division, and assured a full outturn of most of the *bhadoi* crops, except only in the north of Manbhum. In this tract the *bhadoi* crops do not appear to be yielding a satisfactory outturn, but there is a difference of opinion amongst the local officers on this point, and a further report is expected. The prospects of winter rice were everywhere good.

The products of the new *bhadoi* crops were coming into the market. In Palamau *gondli* and *sawa* (*panicum miliare* and *panicum formentaceum*) were selling at 16 seers per rupee, and Indian-corn at 11 seers. The price of Indian-corn in Manbhum is quoted at 16 to 18 seers, while common rice was selling at not less than 8 seers per rupee. In Hazaribagh, the new *makai* (Indian-corn

probably with cones) and *gondli* (probably unhusked) were coming into market and being sold at about 20 and 30 seers per rupee respectively. The prices of the new *bhadoi* in Lohardaga on the 28th August were as noted on the margin, in comparison with those which prevailed on the 14th August. There was an improvement in public health, inasmuch as cholera

	14th August.	28th August.
	S. CH.	S. CH.
<i>Makai</i> ...	5 3	12 1
<i>Marwa</i> ...	8 5	8 12
<i>Dhan</i> ...	10 6	13 8
<i>Gondli</i> ...	18 10	14 12

had abated in almost all the districts in the Division.

During the period under report, 1,097 maunds of rice were imported to Palamau by traders under the bounty system.

Palamau.

This brought the total quantity imported under this system, since its introduction in February last, up to 13,687 maunds of Burma rice, and 5,376 maunds of country rice, the total amount paid by Government on bounties being Rs. 9,532. Orders have been issued by the Commissioner that no further bounties are to be paid. The total number on the relief works in Palamau at the end of July was 1,591. On the 28th August the corresponding number was 1,169, while the number on gratuitous relief on that date was 2,353 against 2,246 on the 31st July. In view of the favourable outlook, all Government relief operations were closed in this district on the 31st ultimo; such of the labourers as had been regularly attending the relief works were, with the sanction of Government, paid gratuities for subsistence up to the 16th September, and the recipients of gratuitous relief were given two weeks' doles. The local Relief Committee will be able to provide for such cases as may be found to require relief; these cases are likely to be few.

The situation in Manbhum was not as satisfactory as in the other districts of the Division. The numbers on the relief works increase continually up to the last week of

Manbhum.

August, when the largest increase took place. On the 28th August, the total number of relief workers was 18,590, against 9,298 on the 31st July. This increase is reported to have been due partly to the completion of the work of transplanting rice, and the consequent release of agricultural labour, partly to the piece-work system having proved too attractive, and partly to the unsatisfactory outturn of the *bhadoi* crops. It has not been found possible to close all relief works in this district, but the piece-work rates have been reduced to Re. 1-4 per 1,000 cubic feet for soft and medium soil, and Re. 1-9 for hard soil. The number on gratuitous relief on the 28th August was 6,073 against 6,399 on the 31st July.

The outlook in this district was most favourable at the end of the month. There were only 418 relief workers on the

Hazaribagh.

28th August, against 1,376 on the 31st July, while the corresponding numbers on gratuitous relief were 1,860 and 3,175 respectively. At the end of the month the Deputy Commissioner was closing relief operations under the same conditions as in the other districts of this Division; but a few kitchens were to be kept open on the Grand Trunk Road for a short time longer.

The good *bhadoi* harvest and the excellent prospects of the winter rice, coupled with the bounty of Re. 1, paid by Government on each maund of rice imported *via*

Lohardaga.

Purulia, caused a marked improvement in prices in the district of Lohardaga. On the 31st July rice was selling in 29 markets at 4 seers or under per rupee. At the end of August this high price prevailed at five markets only. Up to the 28th August, about 3,000 maunds of rice had reached Ranchi, and about 2,000 maunds more were on the way from Purulia. Relief works and gratuitous relief have been closed in this district, as in Palamau and Hazaribagh.

Prospects in Singhbhum were likewise favourable, and there is nothing of importance to report with regard to this district.

Singhbhum.

13. *Presidency Division*.—The rainfall throughout the Division was abundant and well distributed, and considerably improved the condition of the distressed tracts. The harvesting of autumn paddy and jute was in progress;

the outturn of both was on the whole good, and the prospects of winter rice were favourable. The public health was also good, and cattle-disease is reported only from Khulna.

There was no change in the area previously shown as affected, but the Collector, writing on the 3rd September, says that there can be no doubt that severe distress is now at an end. The outturn of the *aus* or autumn paddy, which is an important crop in this district, is much better than it has been for some years, and is estimated at 13 annas for the whole district. The outturn of jute is also stated to be very good, and agricultural prospects generally are excellent. The harvesting of *aus* has brought food into the market and the price of the new rice on the 4th September, as shown in the weekly telegraphic report, varied from 9½ to 12 seers. There was no fall in the price of old rice, and it is not anticipated that there will be any large or permanent fall in the price of it until the *aman* or winter rice is harvested. Relief operations are now being wound up, and the Collector proposes to close them altogether by the 15th of the current month, except that four poor-houses at the head-quarters of the four charges are to be kept open until about the end of the month, to provide for any cases of destitution that may come to notice. The numbers on relief works rapidly fell off, till on the 28th August there were only 331 workers. The Collector has since issued orders to finally close all works. The numbers on gratuitous relief also decreased, and stood at 6,390 on the 28th August against 50,362 on the 31st July. The Collector writes—"The persons still on the lists are only those of the halt, the maim and the blind, who have absolutely no relatives to help them. There are signs, however, of a re-commencement of private charity, and with poor-houses open for the urgent cases, I consider it safe to stop issuing doles from the 15th of the month."

In Khulna there was considerable demand for field labour, and the near approach of the *aus* and jute harvests made it possible for the cultivators to borrow money. But these crops have little comparative importance in this district, and the Collector doubts whether they occupy two annas of the whole cultivable area; the continuous rain, although excellent for the *aman* crop, retarded the harvesting of the autumn paddy. No new rice, therefore, came into the market, and the bad weather rendering the importation of Burma rice difficult, the price of rice rose to 5½ seers the rupee during the latter half of August. The Collector writes that since that time, in consequence of the arrival of fresh stocks, the price has again fallen to 8 seers. There were only two works open, which employed 96 labourers on the 28th August, and they have since been closed. The numbers on gratuitous relief have also fallen, the numbers on 28th August having been 5,040 against 7,776 on the 31st July. This district depends so largely on the *aman* crop that it will probably be necessary to continue gratuitous relief longer than elsewhere.

In Murshidabad the major portion of the relief works was closed on the 25th August, a few only being kept open till the 31st of the month. Gratuitous relief, which in this district was given entirely out of charitable funds, was also closed on the 25th August, with the distribution of ten days' doles to all those remaining on the circle officer's lists, and of pieces of cloth to the most indigent among them. The outturn of the *aus* crop, which was being generally harvested, is estimated at from 14 to 16 annas, and the prospects of the *aman*, the transplantation of which has been everywhere completed, were very favourable. Prices fell, the price of new rice ranging from 9 seers 8 chitaks to 10 seers the rupee. The Collector writes: "the improvement in the condition of the affected tracts is so marked that there is now no further cause for anxiety."

In Jessore new rice had come into the market, and its price ranged between 8 and 13 seers, though the harvest was delayed in parts of the district by the want of sunshine; and in another part both *aus* and *aman* crops were attacked by insects. Two test-works were open, but the number employed on them on the 28th August was only 45, and the works have since been closed. Gratuitous relief was given from charitable funds; the Collector wrote on the 3rd September to the effect that steps were being taken to close the operations.

14. *Bhagalpur Division*.—There was no change in the generally satisfactory condition of the Bhagalpur Division. In the district of Bhagalpur agricultural conditions are reported to have been as good as possible. The harvesting of the *bhadoi* crops had commenced. In the Sadar and Banka subdivision, where Indian-corn is the principal crop of this class, it is expected to be nearly a bumper or 20-anna crop. In the Supaul and Madhipura subdivisions the outturn of *murua*, which is the principal *bhadoi* crop, is estimated to be at least 16 annas. Prices are now easier, *murua* being reported to be 20 seers the rupee in Madhipura and Supaul. In these subdivisions relief operations, including gratuitous relief from the Charitable Relief Fund, have been finally closed. In the other two subdivisions of the district, some relief was still being given from the Charitable Relief Fund when the Collector wrote.

The general condition of the Sonthal Parganas is reported to have greatly improved in consequence of good and sufficient rain in all the subdivisions of the district. The *bhadoi* has proved a bumper harvest almost everywhere excepting in Jamtara. In this subdivision the autumn crops are not of much importance, and will give little local relief. New Indian-corn has come into the market and is quoted at 18 seers the rupee at Godda, but the fall in price was not general. Government relief operations were closed in this district on the 16th August. Relief from the Charitable Relief Fund was continued, and it is stated that in the Jamtara subdivision this form of relief will have to be administered till the end of October, when the upland rice will be ready for consumption. Like Bhagalpur, this district will no longer be shown as distressed.

15. *Rajshahi Division*.—During the second half of August there was copious rain throughout the Division, which enabled the transplantation of winter rice to be vigorously proceeded with. The prospects of this crop are everywhere favourable, and the outturn of jute and autumn rice has been on the whole good. Prices still ruled high. The test-works carried on in Rajshahi, Pabna and Dinajpur were closed. In point of total rainfall since the 15th May, Bogra shows the greatest deficiency in the whole Division, its actual fall being 38 per cent. of the average, but the Collector writes that the rain which fell during the second half of August has rendered the prospects of the next winter rice quite hopeful. The *aus* harvest in this district is estimated at 10 annas for the whole district, and the outturn of jute being 16 annas, it is stated that such distress as was reported to exist amongst cultivators in the eastern part of the district has disappeared, while there is no want of employment for labourers, who are receiving wages slightly higher than usual.

16. *Burdwan Division*.—The general condition of the affected tracts in the district of Bankura is stated to have somewhat improved with the return of the monsoon weather. Writing on the 2nd September, the Collector reports that the prospects of crops have greatly improved, although cultivation in places is still unfinished, and high lands here and there are likely to remain uncultivated this season. Prices continued high, and there were 37 relief works open with 3,334 relief workers at the close of the period under report, against 28 relief works with 1,420 workers at the end of July. The number on gratuitous relief was 4,539 against 8,389, the corresponding figure for July. The Collector's attention has again been drawn to the procedure followed in Manbhum and Nadia in dealing with persons in receipt of gratuitous relief. He reports that in this district relief operations cannot be closed as early as in Behar. The *bhadoi* crops cover only about 9·4 per cent. of the total area of the district, and the chief crop of this class (a kind of rice) is, it is reported, not likely to be harvested till the end of September. Maize is grown only in small patches close to the houses in certain localities, and the early *bhadoi* crops, grown almost solely by Sonthals, have this year been on the whole bad owing to want of rain at the critical time. The Collector also states that in Bankura in normal years prices fall comparatively little in September, but continue to fall through October. The Lieutenant-Governor hopes, however, that it will be found practicable to close relief operations here as elsewhere at the end of September or early in October. Once the coming winter rice crop is assured, the streams of private charity should again begin to flow even in tracts in which the area under *bhadoi* crops is comparatively small.

17. *Orissa Division*.—The condition of the district of Cuttack was prosperous. The rainfall was generally more than sufficient, but was well distributed and did not result in floods. The outturn of the *beali* (autumn rice) crop is estimated at 17 annas for the whole district, and the winter rice has practically all been sown or planted out. Writing on the 4th September, the Collector says that prices are falling everywhere, and more in the interior than in the principal marts. The only form of relief given in this district was gratuitous relief from the charitable fund. The Collector wrote on the 4th that the Local Relief Committee had decided to close relief on the 11th of this month. No report for the district of Puri, for the second half of August, has yet been received, but the weekly telegraphic reports show that the rainfall in this district has been generally sufficient, and that the prospects of crops are good. But the numbers on relief do not show any considerable decrease. The total numbers on relief works and gratuitous relief on the 28th August were 2,052 and 1,197, against 2,974 and 1,374 on the 31st July respectively. The attention of the Commissioner has been drawn to this matter.

Statement of rainfall in the affected and threatened districts in August 1897.

[illegible]

STATIONS.	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	5th.	6th.	7th.	8th.	9th.	10th.	11th.	12th.	13th.	14th.	15th.	16th.	17th.	18th.	19th.	20th.	21st.	22nd.	23rd.	24th.	25th.	26th.	27th.	28th.	29th.	30th.	31st.	Total.	Mar- mal.	
1	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28th. <td>29th.<td>30th.<td>31st.<td>33</td><td>34</td></td></td></td>	29th. <td>30th.<td>31st.<td>33</td><td>34</td></td></td>	30th. <td>31st.<td>33</td><td>34</td></td>	31st. <td>33</td> <td>34</td>	33	34		
Baran	0.25	...	...	0.74	0.10	...	...	...	...	...	0.57	0.03	0.56	0.19	...	0.16	0.39	1.41	0.45	0.21	0.26	0.02	0.19	0.08	0.75	0.08	...	0.13	0.87	10.37
Chhapra	0.25	...	...	0.19	0.32	0.07	...	...	...	0.06	...	...	0.36	1.30	0.90	0.59	1.67	1.00	0.45	0.20	0.72	0.03	0.13	...	0.75	0.08	...	0.13	0.87	10.37
Gondalpur
Siwan
Mothari
Hottiah
Begaha
Kamranger
Sadar
Sitanathi
Hajipur
Sadar
Samatpur
Madhubani
Madhubani
Supaul
Bhagalpur
Bhagalpur
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Monthly Famine Statement A for the four weeks ending Saturday evening, the 28th August 1897.

District.	Area.	Population in thou.	Affected area.	Estimated popula- tion in thousands of area in column 4.	NUMBERS ON RELIEF WORKS ON LAST DAY OF MONTH.					Numbers on gratuit- ous relief.	PRICE OF ONE OR MORE PRINCIPAL FOOD-GRAINS IN SEERS PER RUPEE.					MONTHLY DEATH- RATE.		Deaths due to starvation.
					Class A.	Class B.	Class C.	Class D.	Total.		Common rice.	Barley.	Mango.	Pea.	In the dis- trict.	In the affect- ed area.		
1	Sq. miles.				6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Patna Division	Shahabad	4,265	1,633	328	.....	11,178	.....	.....	11,178	17,879	8 0	.....	.....	.....	9 4	2-95	3-07	NIL.
	Saran	2,468	1,668	808	.....	10,888	.....	1,466	12,274	43,564	8 10	.....	.....	.....	.....	2-50	2-57	NIL.
	Champanan	3,631	3,531	1,800	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28,175	8 5	12 11	.....	.....	.....	2-49	2-40	NIL.
	Muzaffarpur	3,005	1,851	1,000	.....	18,319	.....	6,455	19,774	47,971	8 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	.....	2-63	2-63	NIL.
	Darbhanga	3,335	2,901	2,324	.....	13,335	.....	851	14,256	76,738	8 0	.....	.....	14 8	.....	2-03	2-03	NIL.
Total for the Division					.....	49,690	.....	8,742	57,432	213,977	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chota Nagpur Division	Palaman	4,913	4,913	636	.....	1,169	.....	.....	1,169	2,353	7 14	.....	.....	.....	.....	4-17	4-17	NIL.
	Manbhum	4,147	3,373	901	.....	13,743	.....	4,647	18,390	6,073	8 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	4-08	4-37	NIL.
	Hazaribagh	7,021	1,750	300	.....	418	.....	.....	418	1,366	8 0 to 8 0	.....	10 0	10 0	.....	5-34	7-07	NIL.
Total for the Division					.....	15,330	.....	4,847	20,177	9,798	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Presidency Division	Nadia	2,733	1,644	663	.....	356	.....	5	381	6,390	8 11 1/2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1-64	1-00	NIL.
	Khulus	2,077	1,177	276	.....	96	1	.....	96	5,040	8 0 to 8 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	1-86	NIL	NIL.
	Murshidabad	2,144	1,360	130	.....	704	.....	.....	704	NIL	9 0 to 9 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	2-61	3-12	NIL.
Total for the Division					.....	1,156	1	5	1,151	11,430	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Burdwan Division	Bankura	2,631	1,070	415	3,354	.....	.....	.....	3,354	4,339	8 8	.....	.....	.....	.....	2-44	2-45	NIL.
Orissa Division	Puri	2,473	945	89	.....	2,029	.....	.....	2,029	1,197	9 0 to 10 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	NIL.
GRAND TOTAL					3,354	67,197	1	13,594	84,126	2,42,629	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

* Four reported by police, of which one has been proved to have been due to disease. The others are under enquiry.

No. 1880F.G., dated Bankipore, the 8th September 1897.

From—J. A. BOURDILLON, Esq., Offg. Commissioner of the Patna Division,
To—The Secy. to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, under Sections 13 and 24 of the Famine Code, my report on Famine Relief Operations in the Patna Division during the second-half of August. The facts and figures dealt with relate to the two weeks ending on the 21st and 28th August 1897.

PART I.—INTRODUCTORY.

2. As no tract in the Division required inspection and I was much occupied with office work, I remained at my head-quarters during the fortnight. On the 26th August, however, in answer to a summons from me, Mr. Chapman, Collector of Saran, came down here with maps and papers, and we fully discussed the state of his district, and the line of action to be followed. Later, after the fortnight closed, Mr. Carlyle, Collector of Darbhanga, in the same way spent a day here, and much business was done. He was able to bring the latest news, as he had himself, on the 1st instant, taken a long ride of 100 miles through the worst parts of the district, and had also the latest information from the Subdivisional Officer of Madhubani. I have arranged to start to-morrow on a tour of inspection in Champaran, my particular object being to decide, on the spot, whether the Tribeni canal works need be kept open any longer. I had intended to visit Sitamarhi and Madhubani, but the District Officer in each case has assured me that after the recent rain there is no occasion for me to do so.

PART II.—DISTRICT REPORTS.

3. *Patna.*—Heavy rainfall and continued floods in this district have done great damage to the *bhadoi* crops everywhere, and prices remain obstinately high: these conditions imply inconvenience, but not distress.

SUBDIVISION.	AUGUST RAINFALL.		
	Normal.	1897.	Difference.
1	2	3	4
Bankipore	10.62	8.51	— 2.11
Dinapore	11.32	7.35	— 3.97
Barh	9.36	10.20	+ .82
Bihar	10.60	13.39	+ 2.79
District average ...	10.48	9.66	— .82

4. There has been steady, and at times excessive, rain throughout the fortnight, Hilsa receiving 7.75 inches in the first and 8.35 inches in the second week. The average fall for August and the actual fall up to the 28th are given in the marginal statement.

5. The result has been a good deal of flooding in the *tal*lands, and all along the Ganges Deras: a larger area than usual has been flooded, and the floods have remained longer since the Ganges, which is the eventual outlet of all the flood water in this district, is itself in full flood. The Collector estimates that half his *bhadoi* crop has been destroyed, the Barh Subdivision having suffered most. But in this district, the *bhadoi* is always a doubtful quantity, and an examination of the records for the last ten years shows that the average recorded outturn is 9.14 annas, while in the years 1888-89 and 1890-91 it was less than 4 annas. A failure such as this is, therefore, not of serious consequence.

6. Prices show no tendency to fall, as the marginal table will show, except in Patna City and Dinapore: as usual the figures are for all grains taken together. They are very high for the time of year, and the decline of imports has, no doubt, tended to keep them from falling.

Station.	NUMBER OF BEERS FOR THE RUPEE.	
	August 14th.	August 28th.
1	2	3
Bankipore	9.2	8.15
Patna City	10.5	10.14
Barh	9.4	9.4
Bihar	8.12	8.10
Dinapore	9.4	9.14
District average ...	9.5	9.3

7. Imports have fallen off considerably, doubtless in view of a good *bhadoi* crop. The total for the fortnight was 56,041 maunds, against 86,256 maunds, and the exports 20,163 maunds against 15,081 thus leaving a net balance of 35,878 maunds of imports, against

71,175 maunds in the previous period. As usual, rice was the chief import, and it aggregated six-sevenths of the whole: the greater part came from Howrah.

8. On the last day of the period, the number in the poor-house at Bankipore was 246, at Barh 182, and at Bihar 41: at these last two places they are kitchens rather than poor-houses.

9. The continued high range of prices is causing a good deal of distress in Patna City, and I shall have to help the Collector from the Charitable Relief Fund.

10. *Gaya*.—The condition of this district remains most prosperous, although, as in Patna, a considerable portion of the maize crop has been lost. The Collector places this now at an 8-anna crop, but he reports that *marua*, which has this year been sown over an unusually large area, will be a bumper crop: all others are doing extremely well.

Subdivision.	AUGUST RAINFALL.		
	Normal.	1897.	Difference.
1	2	3	4
Gaya	11.42	14.32	+2.90
Jahanabad	12.23	6.93	-5.30
Aurangabad	12.52	16.03	+3.51
Nawada	10.73	8.78	-1.95
District average ...	11.73	11.53	-.20

Subdivision.	NUMBER OF SEERS FOR THE RUPEE.	
	August 14th.	August 28th.
1	2	3
Gaya	Srs. Ch. 8 10	Srs. Ch. 9 4
Jahanabad	8 11	8 9
Aurangabad	8 13	9 1
Nawada	7 13	8 15

11. Rainfall has been copious, and Mr. Savage, whom I saw in Bankipore on the 3rd instant, reports that all the reservoirs are full, and that little or no damage has been done by the heavy rain, which is noted in the margin.

12. Prices have a slightly downward tendency. A statement showing the general average price of all grain is given in the margin. The cheapest grain at each Subdivision, as now returned, is *marua*, which is 13 seers at Gaya and 12½ at Nawada, while barley is 10 seers at Jahanabad and 12 at Aurangabad.

13. In view of the fine prospects of the crops, it is not surprising that imports have fallen off considerably, having dropped in the fortnight from 37,982 maunds to 23,695 maunds, ex-

ports decreasing at the same time from 664 maunds to 19.

14. The poor-houses in the district fed, on the whole, 797 persons per diem, against an average of 686 in the previous fortnight. There was some laxity of administration at Gaya, which the Collector corrected: there and at all these institutions the recipients of relief are professional beggars. It is to be remembered that these are not Government institutions, but are supported by private charity or public subscriptions, administered by the Charitable Relief Committee.

15. *Shahabad*.—The condition of affairs in this district is still prosperous: crop prospects are excellent, and the numbers on gratuitous relief have fallen steadily.

16. The feature of the fortnight has been the rainfall, which has been

SUBDIVISION.	RAINFALL FOR AUGUST.		
	Normal.	1897.	Difference.
1	2	3	4
Arrah	10.98	6.74	-4.24
Sasaram	11.89	14.60	+2.71
Bhabhua	11.71	19.41	+7.70
Buxar	10.22	13.98	+3.76
District Total ...	11.51	13.41	+1.90

very heavy indeed, especially in Bhabhua and the hills. The fall in the period under report was as follows:—Arrah 4.89, Sasaram 9.20, Bhabhua 11.84, and Buxar 8.93 inches. There followed floods in Bhabhua, which did some damage to the maize. The rainfall for August and the normal rainfall are compared in the marginal statement.

17. In these circumstances crop prospects are excellent. The *bhadoi* is estimated at 14 annas, and the rice is exceedingly strong and promising.

18. Prices are practically stationary, as will be seen from the statement

SUBDIVISION.	NUMBER OF SEERS FOR the RUPEE.	
	14th August.	28th August.
1	2	3
Arrah	Srs. CH. 9 7	Srs. CH. 9 9
Sasaram	9 11	9 11
Bhabhua	9 6	9 5
Buxar	9 9	9 7

in the margin giving the general average price of all grains taken together. The cheapest grains are as follows:—Arrah, maize and *khesari* (10 seers 8 chitaks); Sasaram *khesari* (11 seers); Bhabhua, *rahar* (11 seers 8 chitaks); and Buxar, *rahar* and *khesari* (10 seers). Rice varies from 8 seers to 8½ seers, and, compared with the coarser grains, is decidedly cheap.

19. Imports and exports by rail have both fallen off considerably. In-

cluding the traffic across the Ganges to Ballia, the figures are as follows:—Imports, 43,183 maunds and exports 31,581 maunds: the figures for the previous fortnight were, imports 49,478 maunds and exports 45,414 maunds. There is thus a total falling off in both, and a net balance in favour of the district of 11,602 maunds, against 4,064 maunds. Almost all the imports were rice, and this commodity also supplied the bulk of exports to Ballia.

20. The public health has not been so good as before, owing to fever and sporadic cholera. The death-rate for August is slightly above the normal, but this cannot be attributed to the scarcity.

21. Relief works have been closed in this district for some time, and the numbers on the Moghalserai-Gaya line are falling steadily, owing to the demand for labour in the fields. The figures for the last four Saturdays are as follows:—August 7th, 5,183; August 14th, 5,461; August 21st, 3,527; August 28th, 3,654.

22. The average number of adult units on gratuitous relief of all kinds in

Week ending—	Numbers.
1	2
7th August	18,908
14th "	17,860
21st "	15,849
28th "	14,977

each of the last four weeks is given in the margin. In the current fortnight it is expected that a large decrease will occur. Gratuitous relief has been altogether stopped in the Chenari outpost of the Sasaram Subdivision since the 28th August, and during the current fortnight, it will also be closed in the Ramgarh Charge, north of the Grand Trunk Road, except at three kitchens on that road.

23. In pursuance of the programme explained in my last report, kitchens are being opened at seven more places in the Bhabhua Subdivision, in addition to the four already open, and the two poor-houses at Bhabhua and Sasaram. The daily average number relieved at the existing poor-houses and kitchens was 662 in the first, and 666 in the second week, against 750 and 650 in the two previous weeks. The Sasaram poor-house is to be closed at once, but the Bhabhua poor-house may have to remain open a little longer. With this exception, the Collector hopes to shut off all relief of every kind on the 25th instant.

24. About 4,000 *pardanashin* women are now relieved from the Charitable Fund in the Bhabhua Subdivision. The distribution of donations under Head IV, which was commenced in the flooded area, has been a good deal hampered by the interruption of communications.

25. *Saran*.—Most propitious weather and the advent of a very fine *bhadoi* crop have in this district enabled the Collector to greatly reduce his numbers, both on gratuitous relief and relief works. The decrease in the former case is 22·02 per cent., and in the latter, 37·35 per cent. Mr. Chapman hopes to close relief operations of every kind on 20th September. In pursuance of the policy of reduction, the Collector has, during the last week, contracted the area under severe distress from 1,512 to 563 square-miles. He has now 5 Charge Superintendents instead of 7, and his Relief Circles have been reduced from 51 to 37, while his officers in charge have fallen from 27 to 16.

SUBDIVISION.	AUGUST RAINFALL.		
	Normal.	1897.	Difference.
1	2	3	4
Sadar	9.91	6.87	-3.24
Sewan	10.78	11.39	+ .61
Gopalganj	10.18	7.23	-2.95
District average...	10.29	8.43	-1.86

26. Good and sufficient rain has fallen all over the district. The statement in the margin compares the normal and actual rainfall for August.

27. But for a little damage to the maize in places from too much rain and the loss from floods, the prospects of the crops are excellent. The Collector estimates a 14-anna *bhadoi* crop all round. The minor millets are already in the market in Gopalganj.

28. Prices show a distinct turn for the better. The marginal statement

shows what the general average is, and it is satisfactory to notice that there is a fall everywhere. Mr Chapman reports that *shama* and *kodo* are to be had at Gopalganj at 21 seers, while the new maize is at 10 seers in Chapra, 11½ seers at Sewan and 13 seers at Gopalganj. *Marua* is at 15 seers 6 chittaks at Gopalganj, and at 13 seers elsewhere.

29. Naturally imports fell off largely during the fortnight; taking road, river and rail together, they

SUBDIVISION.	NUMBER OF SEER FOR THE RUPEE.	
	14th August.	28th August.
1	2	3
Sadar	Srs. CH. 9 6	Srs. CH. 10 0
Sewan	9 8	10 6
Gopalganj	10 1	11 2

amounted to 54,610 maunds, against 129,927 maunds, and the exports were 4,681 maunds, against 8,521 maunds. The balance in favour of the district was thus 49,929 maunds, instead of 121,406 maunds. In the second week, the imports by rail decreased by 50 per cent.: there is a marked falling off in the importations of rice by rail.

30. The following table, as usual, compares the figures for relief works and gratuitous relief during the last four weeks.

Week ending—	Number of works open.	AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF MALE UNITS ON—						TASK-WORK.	
		Task-work.	Piece-work.	Daily wage, irrespective of task.	Total relief works.	Gratuitous relief, including dependants.	Total.	Average daily out-turn per male unit.	Cost per 1,000 cubic feet.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A.—Under the Collector.									
7th August 1897	40	3,174	806	6,567	10,576	45,084	50,640	53	Rs. A. P.
14th " " " " " " " "	40	5,876	1,390	6,091	13,777	45,338	59,415	53	1 14 1
21st " " " " " " " "	29	6,450	1,285	6,203	12,998	44,390	57,298	44	1 11 6
28th " " " " " " " "	29	3,367	200	6,064	8,631	35,584	44,215	45	2 2 0
B.—Hatwa Raj.									
7th August 1897	6	210	.....	295	505	700	1,205	84	1 6 4
14th " " " " " " " "	6	322	.....	88	310	686	1,006	85	1 6 10
21st " " " " " " " "	3	326	.....	44	370	712	1,082	87	1 3 10
28th " " " " " " " "	3	640	.....	106	646	697	1,343	89	1 3 1

The number of works under the Collector fell off greatly, and they were 29 in all when the fortnight ended. Since that date, he has already closed all but four, which will be kept open for the present.

31. The average daily number on relief works, it will be seen, has fallen off largely, chiefly on account of works being closed, and also owing to a reduction of the wage which was made in harmony with the fall in the price of grain. The proportion on daily wage, irrespective of task, was too large in the last week, but it is explained that many of these were women doing light dressing tasks (the proportion of women to men was 141 to 100), and in any case, the works have now been closed. Orders have been given that the two Hatwa Raj works which were open during the fortnight, should be closed at once.

32. The numbers receiving gratuitous relief have not fallen so rapidly, but there is a noticeable fall of nearly one-fourth in their numbers, due to the complete cessation of gratuitous relief in West Gopalganj, and to a large reduction in the Sadar Subdivision.

33. The number of kitchens has been raised from 40 to 48, and the average number relieved daily in the last week was 8,435 as against 7,672. I am glad to notice that, out of 8,425 persons, as many as 8,278 or 98·2 per cent. were children: this seems to show that the kitchens in this district are exactly fulfilling the functions which it was hoped they would discharge. The Hatwa Raj kitchens during the last week relieved a daily total of 338 persons.

34. The two Government poor-houses relieved a daily average of 173 persons during the last week, as against 245 in the last week of the previous period, and the Hatwa poor-houses contained a daily average of 428—exactly the same number as before.

35. *Champaran*.—In this district, after a period of considerable anxiety, copious rain falling just after the close of the period under report, has placed matters in a most satisfactory position. Prices are falling, and so are the numbers in receipt of gratuitous relief, although for special reasons those on relief show no decrease.

36. During the early part of August, there had been little rain in Champaran, and the condition of the Ramnagar and Bagaha tracts gave cause for considerable apprehension. For the greater part of the second fortnight, viz., that under review, the weather was showery, but the rainfall was very capricious, though increasing in amount as the month progressed. A statement given in the Collector's 6th paragraph shows that, whereas the average of the first week was 1·60 inches, that of the second was 3·70, and Ramnagar and Bagaha in the last week received 5·38 and 5·20 inches, respectively. This was not sufficient, however, to make up their deficiencies, or to enable the whole of the rice to be planted out, and it was, therefore, with great thankfulness, that I learned by telegram, on the 4th instant, that during the first three days of

SUBDIVISION.	AUGUST RAINFALL.		
	Normal.	1897.	Difference.
1	2	3	4
Sadar ...	11·63	6·53	—5·00
Bettiah ...	12·34	6·92	—5·42
District average ...	11·94	6·72	—5·22

September, Bagaha received 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ and Ramnagar 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches. This information, which is later than Mr. Macpherson's report, delivers me from all anxiety about the tract to the west and north of the Bettiah Subdivision which has caused much apprehension hitherto. The normal rainfall and that for August 1897 are shown in the marginal table.

37. The prospects of the crops are now everywhere excellent. The maize and millets will be a very good crop, though rather late, the *bhadoi* rice nearly up to the average, and the winter rice, (thanks to the late heavy rain) should be a full crop, if, as may be hoped, we have a good *hathiya* fall at the end of this month.

38. Prices, in these circumstances, have taken a decided downward turn, which is calculated by Mr. Macpherson to be equivalent to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the recorded prices at four markets: the mean price for all grains is given in the margin for the two District and Subdivisional head-quarters. Barley is the cheapest grain at Motihari (12 seers and 11 chitaks), at Bettiah *marua* sells at 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ seers, and at Ramnagar at 13 seers, while barley again is cheapest at Bagaha, at 10 seers for the rupee. There has been a drop of a seer or more in the price of Burmah rice, due to the alleged arrival of large consignments in Calcutta:

SUBDIVISION.	NUMBER OF SEERS FOR THE RUPEE.	
	14th August.	28th August.
1	2	3
	S. CH.	S. CH.
Motihari ...	9 9	10 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bettiah ...	9 0	10 9

some of the Burmah rice has been exported to Muzaffarpur.

39. Imports by rail were larger, and exports less, than in the previous fortnight, due doubtless to orders given while the rain held off, and while the prospects of the crops in Ramnagar and Bagaha were doubtful. The imports by rail were 14,580 maunds, against 10,636 maunds, and the exports 2,601 maunds, against 4,904. Almost the whole of the imports consisted of cleaned rice, and the great bulk of it went to Bettiah. Adding on the traffic with Nipal and across the Garidak, we get a total of imports 31,083 maunds and exports 3,389 maunds, leaving a balance of 27,694 maunds in favour of the district, against figures of the preceding fortnight as follows—imports 27,139 maunds, exports 4,904 maunds, balance 22,235 maunds. The imports from Nipal were registered as 16,503 maunds, but were probably much more.

40. The public health has been good and the extraordinary freedom from cholera, which Champaran has enjoyed from the first, still continues. The mortality figures have not been given.

41. The following statement, as usual, compares the figures for relief works and gratuitous relief during each of the four past weeks.

Week ending—	Number of works open.	AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF MALE UNITS ON—						TASK-WORK.	
		Task-work.	Piece-work.	Daily wage irrespective of task.	Total relief works.	Gratuitous relief, including dependants.	Total.	Average daily out-turn per male unit.	Cost per 1,000 cubic feet.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7th August 1897	...	2,864	2,444	4,156	9,454	35,033	44,484	C. ft.	Rs. A. P.
14th " "	29	2,783	4,309	2,427	9,519	32,023	41,542	57'66	1 15 7
21st " "	...	2,209	6,407	1,320	9,936	20,478	30,414	62'36	1 16 0
28th " "	35	2,096	6,073	986	9,725	24,163	33,887	63'05	1 14 5
								56'20	1 13 0

42. It is surprising to see a rise in the number of works. Out of the 6 new works, 5 are under the Civil Agency and 1 under the Public Works Department. The Collector explains that it was found necessary to re-open, under Civil Agency, certain works which had been closed by the Public Works Department, before the middle of August: these works were mainly in the Dhakka, Bettiah and Gobindganj Charges. I was not prepared for the re-opening of fresh works at this stage, but, the matter will be further enquired into during my forthcoming visit to Champaran. At any rate they have now nearly all been closed after the late heavy rain.

43. All these new works and some of the old ones were on the piece-work system, as advised by the Famine Commissioners at the conclusion of famine relief operations. This fact accounts for the increase in numbers under piece-work, and the great fall in those on daily wage, irrespective of task. In the outturn there has been a falling off, which has been attributed to the showery weather which interfered with work, though it did not altogether put a stop to it, and also to the change from task-work to piece-work. Except in the Hardih and Bagaha Charges the scale of wages was reduced to fit the fall in prices from the 1st of August, from a 9½-seer to an 11-seer basis.

44. In the numbers on gratuitous relief there has been a substantial reduction, equivalent in the fortnight to 24·54 per cent. in the average daily number of adult units relieved in all ways. As the Collector points out, this decrease has occurred chiefly in the numbers relieved under Chapter V at their villages, while there has been an increase in the number relieved at kitchens; this is in accordance with the authorised programme, and is satisfactory. In a statement in his 30th paragraph, Mr. Macpherson shows that the total daily average of persons relieved fell from 39,288 in the first to 30,308 in the second week, those relieved under Chapter V decreased from 31,587 to 19,059, while those relieved in kitchens rose from 5,743 to 9,768. Of this latter number, 5,152, or 52·7 per cent., were children. It is curious that, in this district, there has all along been a greater proportion of adults receiving relief in kitchens than in other districts: the fact is doubtless due to the large admixture of aboriginal races and lower castes in the population. It was noticed in a former report that gratuitous relief had been rigorously cut down in the Bettiah Subdivision,

and the accuracy of the remark is confirmed by the fact that the numbers there are falling much more slowly than in the Sadar Subdivision.

45. Kitchens have been increased in number from 83 to 99; at the beginning of August there were only 41 open. It has just been stated that the number fed at these places increased largely during the fortnight, the total advance being from a daily average of 6,495 persons in the second week of August, to one of 10,584 persons in the fourth week of the month.

46. There were seven poor-houses as before with an average population of 1,210, as against 1,179 for the previous fortnight. These institutions are practically hospitals.

47. Figures for the Charitable Relief administration of the fortnight are not yet available.

48. *Muzaffarpur*.—In this district a great improvement has taken place in the situation, which is greater even than what the Collector reports, because more rain has fallen since the date of his letter. Prices are falling, the crop prospects are excellent and the numbers both on relief works and gratuitous relief are fast declining; the former have practically come to an end.

49. The Collector has made no change in his estimate of distressed area up to the end of the period under report, but he has ordered all relief works to be closed by the 1st September, except in the Pupri Charge of the Sitamarhi Subdivision. Gratuitous relief in the same areas—except through kitchens and poor-houses—will cease from the 10th instant.

50. Rainfall during the period under report was uneven and capricious,

SUBDIVISION.	AUGUST RAINFALL.		
	Normal.	1897.	Difference.
1	2	3	4
Sadar	10·34	10·76	+ ·42
Hajipur	10·15	12·03	+ 1·88
Sitamarhi	9·75	6·67	- 1·08
District average ...	10·08	10·48	+ ·40

and though some rain fell almost every day, the amount of each fall was small. The total recorded fall for the period was 6·82 inches at Muzaffarpur, 9·44 at Hajipur, and 6·02 at Sitamarhi. The statement in the margin shows that, for the month of August, Sitamarhi was an inch in deficit and Hajipur nearly 2 inches in excess, and owing to short rainfall earlier in

the year, Sitamarhi was a good deal in arrear. Since the 1st September, however, the situation has vastly improved, for Sitamarhi has received up to the morning of the 5th instant a further fall of 4·78 inches.

51. In these circumstances, the prospects of the crops are even better than they are described to be in the Collector's report. The *bhadoi* is a fine crop almost everywhere, and will certainly be more than an average crop all over the district, and the rice, strengthened by this late rain, will, with a good *hathiya*, be also above the average.

52. With such prospects it would be surprising if there were not a fall

SUBDIVISION.	NUMBER OF SEERS FOR THE RUPEE.	
	August 14th.	August 28th.
1	2	3
Muzaffarpur	Srs. chks. 9 8	Srs. chks. 10 14½
Hajipur	8 12½	9 14½
Sitamarhi	8 15½	9 14½

in prices, and this has begun: there has been a fall of a seer or more in the general average price of grain, as the marginal statement will show, and in particular grains, the prices have fallen greatly. Thus, on the 28th ultimo, the cheapest grains at Muzaffarpur, were *marua* at 17 seers and maize at 13; at Hajipur *marua* was at 14 seers, and at Sitamarhi both

maize and *marua* were quoted at 13 seers. As the maize comes more into the market, prices will fall more rapidly.

53. Imports have fallen off largely. The returns are again incomplete; but, taking them with all reservations, it appears that, during the fortnight, the imports were 35,683 maunds, against 71,175 maunds, and the exports 3,548 maunds, against 2,051 maunds, so that the nett imports were 32,135 maunds, against 69,124 maunds: as usual, most of the imports were rice.

54. The public health was good, but the figures for August are not given.

55. The following statement compares, as usual, the figures for relief works and gratuitous relief during each of the last four weeks.

WEEK ENDING—	Number of works open.	AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF MALE UNITS ON—						TASK-WORK.	
		Task-work.	Piece-work.	Daily wage, irrespective of task.	Total relief works.	Gratuitous relief, including dependants.	Total.	Average daily outturn per male unit.	Cost per 1,000 cubic feet.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9th August 1897 ... ..	.....	20,222	760	8,863	20,864	53,420	88,204	C. ft.	Rs. A. P.
14th " " " " " " " "	59	21,837	541	7,345	30,323	61,791	82,124	75'03	1 3 11
21st " " " " " " " "	.....	17,515	417	8,066	26,001	43,814	69,895	74'96	1 3 1
28th " " " " " " " "	43	10,595	175	6,950	17,720	30,956	67,676	87'34	1 1 6
								103'00	0 14 3

The number of works has fallen off largely, and at the end of the period they were all under the Collector.

56. It will be seen from column 6 of the above statement that the average daily number of male units on relief works fell off by 41·5 per cent., a result partly due to the closing of relief works, and partly to the lowering of the wage. The Collector gives a table to show the distribution by Subdivisions, and from this it appears that, while there was a fall in the other Subdivisions,—which was large in Hajipur,—there was a slight increase in the Sadar, caused by a temporary failure of employment in the fields. The works are chiefly roads, with short lead and soft earth; these facts explain the good outturn and, combined with the lowering of the wage, account for the very low cost per 1,000 cubic feet.

57. The numbers on receipt of gratuitous relief have not fallen so rapidly, the decrease in the fortnight being 22·84 per cent. The largest fall has been in the Sadar Subdivision, but every one shows a decrease. The number of persons in receipt of relief on the latest day of this, as compared with the preceding period, shows a decrease of 12,403: the decrease on relief given under Chapter V of the Code was 9,724 persons, and under the head of kitchens, 3,008.

58. These institutions decreased in number from 74 to 73 and, as just stated, the numbers attending them fell off somewhat; a sign it seems to me that the people in this district are better off, or more fastidious, than they are elsewhere. The daily average numbers fed were, in the last week of the fortnight, 13,273, as against 16,327 at the end of the previous period.

59. In poor-houses, there was a small rise in the daily average population, from 433 in the previous to 482 in the past fortnight.

60. The Darbhanga Raj relieved at Parihar an average of 894 persons a day throughout the fortnight, as against 1,422 in the previous period.

61. Particulars of Charitable Relief administration for August are not available.

62. *Darbhanga*.—After giving rise to considerable anxiety as regards prospects in Madhubani, this district has now received copious rain and, with the exception of one or two small tracts, is now quite safe. Prices are falling, and the Collector is rapidly closing his relief operations.

63. Up to the 20th August, the date of the Collector's previous report, the transplanting of the rice was backward all along the north of the district

SUBDIVISION.	AUGUST RAINFALL.		
	Normal.	1897.	Difference.
1	2	3	4
Sadar	11·89	11·88	+·49
Samastipur	10·35	11·37	+1·02
Madhubani	10·51	9·85	—·66
District average ...	10·75	11·93	+·58

for want of rain, but in the fortnight ending the 28th, there was good rain almost everywhere, ranging from 6·95 inches at Darbhanga to 3·10 at Umgaon on the north-western boundary of the district. Since that date, however, copious rain has fallen in the Madhubani Subdivision, and a telegram from the Subdivisional Officer has informed me that, from the 14th to the 31st August, the fall was 6·43 inches, while from the 1st to the 3rd September, other 4 inches were

recorded. A telegram from the Subdivisional Officer, confirmed by the Collector's verbal assurance, now states that the rice is all transplanted, and only requires the usual *hathiya* rain at the end of this month to be a very fine crop. The *bhadoi* crop is estimated at 17 annas, and is now well in the market.

64. Consequently prices are now falling substantially, as the marginal statement for all grains will show.

SUBDIVISION.	NUMBER OF SEERS FOR THE RUPEE.	
	14th August.	28th August.
1	2	3
	S. CH.	S. CH.
Sadar	8 13	10 12
Samastipur	11 14	10 8
Madhubani	9 14	11 3½

The *bhadoi* crops, especially the commoner kinds, are much cheaper than this average. At Darbhanga, *marua* is now 18 seers and maize 14½; at Samastipur, *marua* is at 16 seers and maize at 12, and at Madhubani, *marua* is 17½ seers and maize 16 seers 15 chattaks.

65. Imports, to my surprise, have slightly risen, and still remain considerable: they aggregated 68,584 maunds against 67,766, while the exports were 3,915 maunds, against

3,339 maunds. The balance in favour of the district is thus 64,669 maunds, against 64,427 maunds at the end of the preceding fortnight, but the Collector points out that there was a large falling off in the last week (nearly 50 per cent.): a similar fall occurred in Saran. More than half the imports by rail was rice. Importation from Nipal has recommenced.

66. The public health was fairly good, the death-rate for August being 2·9 *per mille*, against an average of 2·41 for the last five years.

67. The following table compares, as usual, the figures for relief works and gratuitous relief during the last four weeks:—

WEEK ENDING—	Number of works open.	AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF MALE UNITS ON—						TASK-WORK.	
		Task-work.	Piece-work.	Daily wage, irrespective of task.	Total relief works.	Gratuitous relief, including dependents.	Total.	Average daily out-turn per male unit.	Cost per 1,000 cubic feet.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7th August 1897 ... ..	...	18,885	2,341	8,806	30,102	85,010	115,112	C. ft.	Rs. A. P.
14th " " " " " " " "	87	17,152	2,699	6,261	26,382	86,398	111,780	412	2 9 7
21st " " " " " " " "	...	8,440	2,810	6,173	17,732	71,488	89,220	419	2 5 7
28th " " " " " " " "	83	6,909	2,314	3,899	13,182	65,478	78,660	405	1 15 7
								417	3 3 6

The number of works has been largely reduced. Of the 53 still open at the end of the period, 49 were under Civil Agency, and only 4 under the Public Works Department. Mr. Carlyle explains that while the fate of Madhubani still hung in the balance, he hesitated to dismiss his staff, and they were employed in finishing off works. This situation has now come to an end, and I expect that, during the present fortnight, all the works will be closed. Definite orders have issued for the closure of the Sakri-Jainagar line on the 10th instant; the above 4 works under Public Works Department supervision are the four sections of this line.

68. Not only have many works been closed, but the wage has been reduced as the price of grain fell. During the fortnight, Mr. Carlyle reduced the daily wage by a pice, and since it ended, he has adopted maize at 16 seers as his grain basis, and has reduced the wage by another pice: the ordinary daily wage now is 1as. 3p. for a man and 9 pie for a woman, which cannot be said to be attractive remuneration. The numbers on task-work are falling, as well as those on daily wage, the numbers on piece-work remained steady, as their rates have not been changed, in view of the early closing of the work. The total reduction during the fortnight has been 50 per cent. on the daily number of male units on works of all sorts. There are now no works at all in the Samastipur, Warisnagar and Phulparas Charges.

69. The Darbhanga Raj employed, during the last week of the fortnight, 1,488 persons per diem, against 1,220 in the last week of the previous period.

70. As regards gratuitous relief, the fall has not been so rapid, but has reached 24·49 per cent. and relief of this kind has ceased altogether in Samastipur. The Collector informs me that, in two other Charges, it will cease during the current fortnight also: the whole will be shut up by the end of the month.

71. The kitchen system has been extended in accordance with programme, and the number of kitchens is now 53, against 37 at the end of the previous fortnight. The average daily number of persons relieved in the last week was 15,451, as against 10,881 at the end of the previous period. Out of this number, 88·25 per cent. were children, while the ratio on the previous fortnight was 92·7 per cent.: the change shows that the new system is working well.

72. Poor-houses (eight in all) contained a daily average of 1,047 persons in the week ending 28th August. The daily average a fortnight before was 1,078 in nine poor-houses.

73. The Darbhanga Raj relieved, gratuitously, a daily average of 15,382 persons in the first and 12,668 persons in the second week of the fortnight. The previous figures were 14,483 and 12,401.

74. From a copy of the Collector's report to the Secretary of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, Calcutta, which has been sent to me separately, I find that the average number of persons relieved daily during the second half of August was 26,105, and the expenditure to the end of the month has been Rs. 1,14,462. Of this sum, Rs. 60,893 were given as donations under head IV to 9,129 persons: it is evident from the report that these donations were given with much care and discrimination.

PART III.—CONCLUSION.

75. Except in parts of Patna, and to a slight extent in Gaya and Shahabad, the agricultural outlook and the condition of the people in the Division is decidedly better than it was when my last report was written, hopeful though that was.

76. On the whole, good, seasonable and sufficient rain has fallen everywhere during the fortnight under report, with no break except for the last three days of the period. The general characteristic of the rainfall was that it came in showers, and though generally sufficient, was unequally distributed even in the same district. Parts of Patna, Gaya and Shahabad had almost too much, floods ensuing to the damage of the *bhadoi*, while in west Bettiah, Sitamarhi, and Madhubani, the fall up to the 28th August was still insufficient, and (especially in the former tract) a good deal of the rice remained to be transplanted. The last few days of August, however, and the first few days of September, have witnessed a great improvement in the situation. Copious rain has fallen, especially in the three tracts named, and all District Officers write most confidently of the agricultural outlook. A table is added, as Appendix B, which gives the rainfall for August and the total up to the end of that month in a normal year and in 1897.

77. Except in Patna, where the Collector considers that half his crop has gone, and in Gaya and Shahabad, where the damage is less, the *bhadoi* crop is certainly above the average; and it came well into the market everywhere during the fortnight, except in the northern parts of the trans-Gangetic districts. The *aghani* rice has been planted out everywhere and gives excellent promise; with a good *hathiya* downfall at the end of the current month, this crop also should yield more than an average return; while even if the *hathiya* fails, or is short, there is reason to think that a fair crop would be reaped.

78. Prices have, at last, begun to fall, as the marginal statements above entered against each district will show. In every district the commoner food-grains are much cheaper than they were a month ago, and the mass of the people are now relieved from the pinch of half rations and insufficient food, since the harvesting of the *bhadoi* and the transplanting of the rice gives them employment and remuneration either in kind, or in cash, sufficient to purchase the rapidly cheapening grain.

79. With prospects so favourable, it is not to be wondered at that imports have greatly fallen off, but, even so, they still exceed the exports everywhere. The following table will indicate the extent of the decrease which, as has been noticed above, has occurred chiefly in the second week of the fortnight:—

DISTRICT.	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.		EXCESS—I. OR E.	
	Fortnight ending 14th August 1897.	Fortnight ending 28th August 1897.	Fortnight ending 14th August 1897.	Fortnight ending 28th August 1897.	Fortnight ending 14th August 1897.	Fortnight ending 28th August 1897.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Patna	...	86,250	50,041	15,081	90,163	I. 71,175
Gaya	...	37,668	23,695	664	19	I. 37,318
Shahabad	...	49,478	43,183	45,414	31,581	I. 4,064
Saran	...	1,20,027	54,610	8,531	4,681	I. 1,21,406
Champaran	...	27,139	31,088	4,904	3,369	I. 22,235
Muzaffarpur	...	71,175	35,883	2,051	3,548	I. 69,194
Darbhanga	...	67,706	68,684	3,339	3,915	I. 64,427
Total	...	4,60,723	3,12,879	79,974	87,296	.....

In imports, every district shows a falling off, except Champaran and Darbhanga, where the advance is but slight. In exports, there is some advance in Patna, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga. The balance in favour of the district is everywhere less, except in Shahabad, Champaran (due to large imports from Nipal) and Darbhanga. The difference in Saran is very large.

DISTRICT.	FOR THE PERIOD ENDING—			
	10th July.	31st July (three weeks).	14th August.	29th August.
	1	2	3	4
		Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Patna	...	20,183	22,148	42,077
Gaya	19,298
Shahabad	...	3,768	23,743	23,223
Saran	...	22,635	79,693	71,803
Champaran	...	19,819	37,656	10,261
Muzaffarpur	...	22,739	37,863	30,697
Darbhanga	...	13,370	55,079	30,060
Total	...	1,01,354	2,47,075	2,22,309

smaller, quantities were imported from Howrah as before, as the marginal statement shows. There has been a decrease in every district except Champaran and Darbhanga.

80. As usual with the report for the second half of a month, I give a statement showing what the net results of the

grain traffic has been in each district from the 1st October 1896 up to date. Shahabad is the only district which has exported more than it has imported, while Saran, as usual, stands first in respect of imports, its total net imports, according to this table, being more than 58,000 tons:—

NET BALANCE IN FAVOUR OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING—

District.	NET BALANCE IN FAVOUR OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING--																		
	30th December.	31st January.	30th January.	15th February.	27th February.	15th March.	27th March.	15th April.	1st May.	15th May.	30th May.	15th June.	30th June.	10th July.	31st July.	15th August.	30th August.	Total.	
Patna	Mds. 2,20,807	Mds. -7,084	Mds. 9,969	Mds. -1,868	Mds. -54	Mds. -8,219	Mds. 18,639	Mds. 17,231	Mds. 46,776	Mds. 23,265	Mds. -90,273	Mds. 7,315	Mds. 13,691	Mds. -18,853	Mds. 81,171	Mds. 71,178	Mds. 38,578	Mds. 25,302	
Gaya	Mds. -1,737	Mds. -4,111	Mds. 1,101	Mds. 3,869	Mds. 6,401	Mds. 3,206	Mds. 7,850	Mds. 10,037	Mds. 31,716	Mds. 10,027	Mds. 14,945	Mds. 10,616	Mds. 7,989	Mds. 13,573	Mds. 96,171	Mds. 97,318	Mds. 25,676	Mds. 25,929	
Siwan	Mds. -1,04	Mds. 15,994	Mds. 23,159	Mds. 16,894	Mds. 14,338	Mds. 3,469	Mds. 11,273	Mds. 89,370	Mds. 30,639	Mds. -29,783	Mds. -18,294	Mds. -31,265	Mds. 8,167	Mds. -12,691	Mds. -9,483	Mds. 4,064	Mds. 11,602	Mds. -41,963	
Chhapra	Mds. +1,76,133	Mds. 69,627	Mds. 1,65,104	Mds. 72,531	Mds. 83,126	Mds. 79,391	Mds. 88,396	Mds. 89,373	Mds. 1,46,537	Mds. 55,132	Mds. 30,757	Mds. 1,28,686	Mds. +71,079	Mds. 14,694	Mds. 1,39,871	Mds. 1,21,498	Mds. 49,029	Mds. 16,26,639	
Madhupar	Mds. -29,915	Mds. 3,496	Mds. 10,172	Mds. 12,673	Mds. 13,614	Mds. 18,003	Mds. 47,396	Mds. 71,008	Mds. 41,945	Mds. 24,558	Mds. 57,943	Mds. 55,093	Mds. 30,739	Mds. 33,054	Mds. 36,571	Mds. 22,585	Mds. 27,034	Mds. 4,94,679	
Darbhanga	Mds. +59,463	Mds. 43,163	Mds. 44,524	Mds. 47,631	Mds. 22,377	Mds. 50,649	Mds. 49,461	Mds. 60,739	Mds. 80,291	Mds. 80,754	Mds. 82,833	Mds. 33,927	Mds. 38,616	Mds. 59,045	Mds. 1,09,081	Mds. 68,121	Mds. 37,135	Mds. 3,76,536	
	Mds. -1,29,633	Mds. 13,128	Mds. 32,193	Mds. 30,803	Mds. 26,826	Mds. 46,399	Mds. 54,697	Mds. 61,985	Mds. 1,81,573	Mds. 1,69,477	Mds. 1,40,776	Mds. 1,06,899	Mds. 91,037	Mds. 60,164	Mds. 1,22,049	Mds. 64,427	Mds. 64,009	Mds. 11,37,668	

81. The public health has remained extremely good, but as all the district returns for August have not been received, I submit no statement.

82. The following statement compares the main figures of the fortnight for relief works and gratuitous relief with those of the previous fortnight:—

DISTRICT.	FORTNIGHT ENDING 14TH AUGUST 1897.								FORTNIGHT ENDING 28TH AUGUST 1897.							
	TASK-WORK.				DAILY WAGES, IRRESPECTIVE OF TASK.		GRATUITOUS RELIEF.		TASK-WORK.				DAILY WAGES, IRRESPECTIVE OF TASK.		GRATUITOUS RELIEF.	
	Average daily number of male units.	Work done by each per diem.	Wages earned by each per diem.	Cost per 1,000 cubic feet.	Average daily number of male units.	Daily wages earned by each.	Number of adult units in receipt of gratuitous relief.	Average dole.	Average daily number of male units.	Work done by each per diem.	Wages earned by each per diem.	Cost per 1,000 cubic feet.	Average daily number of male units.	Daily wages earned by each.	Number of adult units in receipt of gratuitous relief.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
		C. ft.	A. P.	Rs. A. P.		A. P.		A. P.		C. ft.	A. P.	Rs. A. P.		A. P.		
Patna	115	0 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	185	...
Gaya
Shahabad	18,378	0 11 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,313	...
Saran	...	4,635	53 5	1 6	1 12 10 1/2	6,554	1 7	47,361	0 10	3,908	44 5	1 7	3 3 3 1/2	6,163	1 6	39,048
Champanan	...	2,793	60 0 2	1 10	1 15 3 1/2	3,291	1 9 1/2	33,536	1 0 1/2	2,151	54 6 7	1 7	1 18 8 1/2	1,148	1 10	25,330
Muzaffarpur	...	21,034	75 3 8	1 5 1/2	1 3 6	8,404	1 7	52,500	0 11	14,055	95 17	1 5 1/2	0 15 10 1/2	2,509	1 7	41,925
Darbhanga	...	16,008	41 5	1 7 5	2 7 7	7,578	1 7 5	85,204	0 10 7 3/4	7,704	47 12	1 7 1/2	2 1 6	5,186	1 9 1/4	66,463
Total	...	46,360	...	...	...	25,537	...	1,37,134	...	27,818	...	...	...	30,000	...	1,91,105

There has been a falling off of 33·75 per cent. in the average daily number of male units on relief works, and a decrease of 19·38 per cent. in that of the adult units receiving gratuitous relief. In Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga, the outturn of work has been better; in the other two districts, it has fallen off: except in Saran, the cost rate has decreased.

83. The figures below represent the total number of persons receiving Government relief on the last day of the fortnight, whether gratuitously or in return for labour; the figures are taken from the *Calcutta Gazette*, but have been corrected by the Collector of Champaran, and figures for the Darbhanga Raj, which were omitted in the Gazette, have now been added. The population of the affected area has been left intact except in Darbhanga, because, in other districts, no area has been declared entirely free from distress up to the 28th August. In several areas, relief works have ceased and gratuitous relief has been largely reduced, but as they are still slightly affected, the population of them has not been deducted from the total: it is expected that, in next report, a considerable reduction will appear. As it is, there is a satisfactory reduction of 1·02 in the total percentage all round, which is greatest in Saran and Muzaffarpur.

DISTRICT.	Estimated population of affected area.	Number in receipt of relief of all kinds on 28th August.	PERCENTAGE RECEIVING RELIEF ON THE—				
			26th June.	10th July.	31st July.	14th August.	28th August.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Shahabad	382,000	17,518	5·73	6·11	6·24	5·84	4·55
Saran	1,416,000	53,616	4·66	4·73	5·00	5·33	3·75
Champanan	1,860,000	41,440	7·66	5·62	3·64	2·62	2·23
Muzaffarpur	1,600,000	68,208	6·26	6·62	6·14	5·74	4·10
Darbhanga	2,050,992	105,460	10·80	10·97	7·81	6·79	5·16
Total	7,368,992	285,271	7·57	7·40	5·90	4·90	3·86

84. The marginal figures show how the total percentage is distributed between relief works and gratuitous relief. The total reduction under the former is 0.44 per cent., and under gratuitous relief, 0.58 per cent.

DISTRICT.	14TH AUGUST.		28TH AUGUST.	
	Relief works.	Gratuitous relief.	Relief works.	Gratuitous relief.
1	2	3	4	5
Shahabad ... ..	...	5.54	...	4.65
Saran	1.23	4.05	0.85	3.93
Champanan	0.81	3.01	0.66	1.56
Muzaffarpur	2.08	3.67	1.19	2.91
Darbhanga	1.37	4.43	0.76	4.37
Total	1.25	3.65	0.91	3.07

85. As works under the Public Works Department are now retained in two districts only, the table in the margin, showing how the existing works are distributed between Civil and Public Works De-

partment Agency, has lost most of its interest.

District.	14TH AUGUST.			28TH AUGUST.		
	Civil Agency.	Public Works Department Agency.	Total.	Civil Agency.	Public Works Department Agency.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Shahabad ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Saran	40	...	40	29	...	29
Champanan	10	19	29	15	20	35
Muzaffarpur	54	5	59	43	...	43
Darbhanga	61	6	67	40	4	44
Total	165	30	195	126	24	150

During the current fortnight there will be a great reduction. The Public Works Department works in Darbhanga should disappear, and those in Champanan will be reduced, though some may, perhaps, remain open a short time longer. Most of the Civil works have already been closed since the fortnight ended.

86. The following table shows, as desired by Government, the amount advanced under the modified rules of the Land Improvement Loans Act. Little or nothing has been done, as the season has passed for these advances.

DISTRICT.	Amount advanced up to the 31st March 1897.	AMOUNT ADVANCED SINCE THE 1st APRIL 1897.			REMARKS.
		Previous to period under report.	During period under report.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Patna ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gaya ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shahabad	1,950	19,255	500	19,755	
Saran	9,952	13,860	.....	13,860	
Champanan	300	5,827	42	5,869	
Muzaffarpur	3,100	6,959	.....	6,959	
Darbhanga	1,413	17,548	.....	17,548	
Total	16,715	63,449	542	63,991	

87. As pointed out in paragraph 77 of my last report, relief in kitchens is expected to be a prominent feature of our closing relief operations, and I therefore give below a table comparing the figures for kitchens in the two weeks

ending 14th and 28th August. In Muzafferpur, kitchens have given a great deal of relief from the first, and the system did not require to be developed there: In Champaran and Darbhanga, satisfactory progress has been made: in Saran, the number relieved is small, but the cooked food reaches the class it was intended to help, viz., the children:—

DISTRICT.	Number of kitchens open.		AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS RELIEVED DAILY—				PERCENTAGES—			
			At kitchens.		In all ways.		Of total relieved at kitchens to total relief.		Of children to total relieved at kitchens.	
	14th August.	28th August.	14th August.	28th August.	14th August.	28th August.	14th August.	28th August.	14th August.	28th August.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Patna	2	3	180	230	430	467	41'08	45'7	20	21'07
Gaya ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shahabad	4	4	390	406	21,163	17,670	1'8	2'3	41'3	37'
Saran	40	48	7,072	8,433	55,030	43,804	13'7	19'2	80'6	69'3
Champaran	83	80	6,405	10,564	37,470	29,175	17'3	26'2	84'9	53'3
Muzafferpur	74	73	16,327	13,373	61,724	47,971	24'4	27'6	60'2	56'1
Darbhanga	37	53	10,981	15,461	99,103	66,478	10'9	22'6	83'7	66'2

88. Appendix A, as usual, gives the expenditure to date, so far as it can be ascertained from the financial statements submitted by District Officers. A separate report, showing the actual expenditure, will be laid before Government, as soon as I can obtain the necessary information from the District Officers, which has been called for some time ago. As the statement stands, it appears that the total expenditure to date is 65½ lakhs, of which 40 lakhs have been spent on relief works and nearly 23½ on gratuitous relief. The expenditure of the fortnight amounts to Rs. 2,85,990.

89. The usual statements, with the district reports and maps for August, are submitted herewith.

APPENDIX A.

Showing the expenditure from the commencement of relief operations up to the 28th August 1897.

DISTRICT.	RELIEF WORK.				GRATUITOUS RELIEF.										MISCELLANEOUS.					GRAND TOTAL.
	Paid for task-work.	Daily wages, irrespective of task.	Dependents under Sections 83 and 84.	Total of columns 2, 3 and 4.	Poor-houses, &c.	Relief of artisans.	Relief by grain doles.	Relief by money doles.	Kitchens.	Miscellaneous charitable relief.	Total of columns 6 to 11.	Establishment and contingents.	Tools and plant.	Cash and stores.	Bounties for digging wells.	Total of columns 15 to 16.				
1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18				
Panna	Rs. A. P. 3,101 0 1	Rs. A. P. 63 13 9	Rs. A. P. 3,173 8 9	Rs. A. P. 3,163 13 10	Rs. A. P. 3,659 1 0	.....	Rs. A. P. 601 15 10	Rs. A. P. 1,64,543 3 9	Rs. A. P. 984 11 1	Rs. A. P. 993 10 3	Rs. A. P. 4,301 0 10	Rs. A. P. 39,440 9 1	Rs. A. P. 3,167 13 3	Rs. A. P. 3,539 0 4	.....	Rs. A. P. 7,464 14 8	2,55,056 12 5	
Gaya	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,00,193 4 9
Shahabad	Rs. A. P. 26,166 14 10	Rs. A. P. 15,061 15 3	Rs. A. P. 3,173 8 9	Rs. A. P. 74,391 1 10	Rs. A. P. 12,923 1 6	.....	.....	Rs. A. P. 1,64,543 3 9	Rs. A. P. 2,846 11 1	Rs. A. P. 993 10 3	Rs. A. P. 1,60,674 10 7	Rs. A. P. 39,440 9 1	Rs. A. P. 3,167 13 3	Rs. A. P. 3,539 0 4	.....	Rs. A. P. 29,380 14 5	19,33,840 13 7
Saran	Rs. A. P. 1,43,948 0 8	Rs. A. P. 66,540 10 3	Rs. A. P. 2,870 1 1	Rs. A. P. 3,18,358 11 11	Rs. A. P. 14,467 2 1	.....	.....	Rs. A. P. 2,41,573 12 7	Rs. A. P. 8,681 3 11	.....	Rs. A. P. 3,42,383 15 9	Rs. A. P. 39,440 9 1	Rs. A. P. 3,167 13 3	Rs. A. P. 3,539 0 4	.....	Rs. A. P. 29,380 14 5	10,52,057 3 8
Champanan	Rs. A. P. 11,27,293 3 1	Rs. A. P. 1,92,478 1 2	Rs. A. P. 38,752 12 3	Rs. A. P. 13,48,694 3 6	Rs. A. P. 5,033 1 7	.....	.....	Rs. A. P. 4,11,338 11 4	Rs. A. P. 25,705 14 6	.....	Rs. A. P. 3,94,935 11 11	Rs. A. P. 36,183 0 11	Rs. A. P. 3,167 13 3	Rs. A. P. 3,539 0 4	.....	Rs. A. P. 1,24,367 14 3	25,54,699 10 42
Muzaffarpur	Rs. A. P. 4,06,037 4 8	Rs. A. P. 1,71,233 0 6	Rs. A. P. 10,042 0 5	Rs. A. P. 5,88,337 5 7	Rs. A. P. 3,478 3 11	.....	.....	Rs. A. P. 46,597 5 10	Rs. A. P. 68,778 10 5	.....	Rs. A. P. 4,65,719 14 1	Rs. A. P. 68,351 0 8	Rs. A. P. 37,517 13 3	Rs. A. P. 3,539 0 4	.....	Rs. A. P. 2,05,069 10 8	65,53,331 11 61
Darbhanga	Rs. A. P. 12,84,916 3 10	Rs. A. P. 4,59,432 3 0	Rs. A. P. 27,382 5 5	Rs. A. P. 17,70,730 11 3	Rs. A. P. 3,478 3 11	.....	.....	Rs. A. P. 7,06,578 8 64	Rs. A. P. 28,778 13 13	.....	Rs. A. P. 7,59,701 1 04	Rs. A. P. 1,39,154 10 8	Rs. A. P. 60,555 10 5	Rs. A. P. 3,539 0 4	.....	Rs. A. P. 2,05,069 10 8	65,53,331 11 61
Total	Rs. A. P. 30,26,428 18 2	Rs. A. P. 9,03,833 11 10	Rs. A. P. 73,219 6 11	Rs. A. P. 40,91,505 15 11	Rs. A. P. 46,935 5 7	.....	Rs. A. P. 16,11,537 9 104	Rs. A. P. 1,32,691 5 01	Rs. A. P. 993 4 3	Rs. A. P. 23,47,746 6 24	Rs. A. P. 1,39,154 10 8	Rs. A. P. 60,555 10 5	Rs. A. P. 3,539 0 4	.....	.....	Rs. A. P. 2,05,069 5 5	65,53,331 11 61

BANKIPORE,
The 8th September 1897.

* Less Gopalganj figures for the fortnight, which will follow on receipt of correct figures.

J. A. BOURDILLON,
Commissioner.

APPENDIX B.

Statement showing, for each Subdivision, the rainfall in August and up to the end of August, in 1897, and in a normal year.

DISTRICT AND SUBDIVISION.	AUGUST RAINFALL.			TOTAL RAINFALL TO END OF AUGUST.			REMARKS.
	Normal.	1897.	Difference.	Normal.	1897.	Difference.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>Patna.</i>	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	
Sadar	10.62	8.51	-2.11	31.52	48.25	+16.73	
Barh	9.88	10.20	+ .32	29.06	32.81	+ 3.75	
Bihar	10.60	13.39	+ 2.79	33.10	41.14	+ 8.04	
Dinapur	11.32	7.35	-3.97	31.15	51.64	+20.49	
District average ...	10.48	9.86	-.62	30.94	43.46	+12.52	
<i>Gaya.</i>							
Sadar	11.42	14.32	+ 2.90	32.39	41.79	+ 9.40	
Aurangabad	12.52	16.05	+ 3.53	32.35	41.30	+ 8.95	
Nawadah	10.73	8.78	-1.95	30.21	35.42	+ 5.21	
Jahanabad	12.23	6.93	-5.30	31.42	32.58	+ 1.16	
District average ...	11.73	11.52	-.21	31.61	37.77	+ 6.16	
<i>Shahabad.</i>							
Sadar	10.98	5.74	-5.24	29.98	47.17	+17.19	
Sasaram	11.89	14.50	+ 2.61	29.72	35.77	+ 6.05	
Buxar	10.22	13.93	+ 3.71	27.45	31.00	+ 3.55	
Bhabua	11.71	19.41	+ 7.70	30.57	38.40	+ 7.83	
District average ...	11.51	13.41	+ 1.90	29.49	38.08	+ 8.59	
<i>Saran.</i>							
Sadar	9.91	6.67	-3.24	30.93	38.45	+ 7.52	
Sewan	10.78	11.39	+ .61	31.43	34.44	+ 3.01	
Gopalganj	10.18	7.23	-2.95	31.96	31.47	-.49	
District average ...	10.29	8.43	-1.86	31.14	34.78	+ 3.64	
<i>Champaran.</i>							
Sadar	11.53	6.53	-5.00	33.15	24.68	- 8.47	
Bettiah	12.34	6.92	-5.42	36.94	27.25	- 9.69	
District average ...	11.94	6.72	-5.22	35.06	25.95	- 9.11	
<i>Muzaffarpur.</i>							
Sadar	10.34	10.76	+ .42	32.98	32.57	-.41	
Hajipur	10.15	12.03	+ 1.88	30.37	46.48	+16.11	
Sitamarhi	9.75	8.67	-1.08	32.21	20.90	-11.31	
District average ...	10.08	10.48	+ .40	32.03	33.32	+ 1.29	
<i>Darbhanga.</i>							
Sadar	11.39	11.88	+ .49	34.47	30.77	- 3.70	
Samastipur	10.35	11.37	+ 1.02	32.83	35.93	+ 3.10	
Madhubani	10.51	9.85	-.66	33.76	30.78	- 2.98	
District average ...	10.75	11.33	+ .58	33.69	32.51	- 1.18	

J. A. BOURDILLON,
Commissioner.

PATNA COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
BANKIPORE,
The 8th September 1897.



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1897.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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FIRST FORECAST OF BHADOI CROP, 1897.

The following is published for general information.

M. FINUCANE,

The 5th October 1897.

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

DEPARTMENT OF LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE, BENGAL.

First Report on the Bhadoi Crops in Bengal, 1897.

Explanatory.—The classification of crops adopted in the present Report is the same as was followed in the Final Report on the *bhadoi* crops, in Bengal, 1896.

The crops, of which estimates of area and outturn are furnished in this Note, are:—

(1) *Bhadoi* food-crops comprising *bhadoi* paddy, *jowar*, *bajra*, *mandua*, maize, other *bhadoi* cereals and pulses and other *bhadoi* food-crops, such as, vegetables, and (2) *bhadoi* non-food crops, viz., jute, cotton, indigo, *til*, sunn hemp and others. Among the *bhadoi* food-crops, the most important are *bhadoi* paddy, Indian-corn and millets; these, with other *bhadoi* food-crops, make up four-fifths of the total area under all *bhadoi* crops. *Bhadoi* paddy is chiefly grown in Bengal and Orissa, and maize and millets predominate in Bihar and Chota Nagpur. *Bhadoi* paddy occupies about 45 per cent. of the total *bhadoi* area. Of *bhadoi* non-food-crops, the chief are jute, indigo and cotton; about these crops, it is not necessary to make any special remarks here, as estimates of their area and outturn are published in special Notes.

2. *Conditions of rainfall necessary for good bhadai crops.*—The prospects of the *bhadai* crops are dependent upon the rainfall from April to September, and especially upon the rainfall from the middle of May onwards. The ante-monsoon showers of April are very necessary to prepare the land for the cultivation of the *bhadai* crops. Rain is required at this time at frequent intervals, but should not be copious and continuous. The *bhadai* paddy crop is generally sown in May. Heavy rain at this time and in the month following is, therefore, injurious to the sowing and successful germination on the crop. Scattered showers, with intervals of sunshine, of the other hand, are very useful, inasmuch as they permit of weeding operations being carried out successfully, and enable the plants to put forth a vigorous growth. The next important stage in the growth of the *bhadai* rice crop is when it begins to flower in the month of August. Rain, though not on an excessive scale, is necessary now to develop and bring the crop to maturity. Indian corn and most of the millets are generally sown about a month later than *bhadai* paddy. Heavy rain, therefore, in June and July retard the sowing and germination of these crops. Showers at intervals in July and August are very favourable to their growth.

3. *Character of the bhadai season of 1897.*—In April, South-West Bengal, Bihar and Chota Nagpur received more than the usual amount of rain. In East and North Bengal, there was a large defect. In Orissa, the fall was practically normal. In May, the rainfall was considerably below the normal in all Divisions except North Bengal, where it was a little above the normal. In June, the rainfall was very deficient in North Bengal; it was in excess in Bihar and near

to the normal in other parts of these Provinces. A feature of this month was the very heavy fall which occurred on the 24th to 26th over parts of Bihar. A break in the rains commenced on the 29th of June, and continued almost up to the end of the first week of July. After this, the rainfall was well distributed throughout the month. The total rainfall of the Province in July was, however, below the normal, except in Orissa. The distribution of rainfall in August was unusually uniform and without break over the whole Province. In East Bengal, there was, on an average, an excess of 3·44 inches of rain; but in all the other Divisions, the difference from the normal was, on an average, less than an inch. During the first week of September, general rain fell, the fall being heavy in the north and north-east of the Province. During the second week, rainfall was also general. In parts of North Bihar, the rain was heavy, and the rivers rose and caused some damage to the crops. Some injury from insect pests is reported from Jessore. On the whole, the season has been favourable to the growth of all kinds of *bhadoi* crops.

4. *Area cultivated.*—The total area cultivated with *bhadoi* crops of all kinds during the current season appears from the appended District Returns to amount to 16,187,000 acres, against 15,971,100 acres estimated to have been cultivated with all kinds of *bhadoi* crops during the year 1896. The whole increase in area, cultivated with *bhadoi* crops (1·3 per cent.), is only nominal. There is a marked decrease, however, amounting to 6 per cent. in comparison with last year's figures, in the area cultivated this year under *bhadoi* non-food crops, due to the increased cultivation of *bhadoi* paddy. Owing to the scarcity of food-grains, cultivators have extended their cultivation of food crops, especially rice.

5. *Character of the crop.*—From the estimates of outturn returned by District Officers, as given in the appended statement, it will be seen that, taking all the *bhadoi* crops together, one out of the 45 districts of these Provinces, viz., Burdwan, returns a 19½ anna crop; 12 districts, viz., Birbhum, Darjeeling, Backerganj, Tippera, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Bhagapur, Cuttack, Balasore, Hazaribagh, Lohardaga and Singhbhum return crops varying from 16 annas to 18 annas; 31 districts return crops varying from 12 to less than 16 annas, and one district, viz., Patna, returns a 9-anna crop, a result reported to be due to damage by floods and excessive rain at weeding time. On comparing these figures with the estimates of outturn of the crop of 1896, as shown in column 8 of the appended statement, it will be further seen that one district, viz., Gaya, reports a crop equal to that of 1896;

one district, viz., Patna, reports a worse crop, and all the remaining 43 districts report better crops. The jute crop of this year is good, and the indigo crop poor, on account of lack of moisture at the beginning of the season.

It is certain, that the *bhadoi* crops of this year, taken as a whole, are very much better than those of last year; and it is believed that, for the Province generally, and taken as a whole, they are as good as the best that have been reaped in recent years. The arithmetical mean of the district estimates, calculated for the Province with reference to areas, is 15 annas; but, after allowing for the tendency of reporting officers to under-estimate, the estimate made in this Department of the *bhadoi* crops of 1897, taken as a whole, is $16\frac{1}{2}$ annas.

N. N. BANERJEE,

*Assistant Director of the Dept. of Land
Records and Agriculture, Bengal.*

The 26th September 1897.

(Countersigned.)

W. C. MACPHERSON,

*Director of the Dept. of Land
Records and Agriculture, Bengal.*

Preliminary Forecast of Bhadoi Crops, 1897.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
DISTRICT.	Total area of district in acres.	Total area in district cultivated to be under culture.	Names of bhadoi crops.	Approximate normal area under each specified bhadoi crop in acres.	Approximate area last year under each specified bhadoi crop in acres.	Estimated area this year under each specified bhadoi crop in acres.	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn, how many annas represented outturn last year?	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn, how many annas will represent this year's outturn?	Remarks by District Officer.	Remarks by the Department of Land Records and Agri. culture, Bengal.
Burdwan	1,724,000	1,583,000	Bhadoi paddy	175,700	167,800	172,600	Annas. 13	Annas. 20	Owing to seasonable weather, the outturn will be up to or above the average, except for maize. I think that probably the area has been somewhat under-estimated this year.	
			Indian-corn (maize)	2,000	3,000	2,000	14	10		
			Other bhadoi cereals and bhadoi pulses.	5,100	7,000	5,100	13	16		
			Other food-crops (e.g., vegetables).	2,700	2,100	2,300	14	16		
			Non-food crops, e.g., jute, indigo, bhadoi oil, sugar hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.	22,000	24,100	24,500	13	13		
			Total	215,500	204,300	210,200	13	19½		

1-	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
District.	Total area of district in acres.	Total area in district estimated to be under cultivation in acres.	Names of <i>bhadol</i> crops.	Approximate normal area under each specified <i>bhadol</i> crop in acres.	Approximate area last year under each specified <i>bhadol</i> crop in acres.	Estimated area this year under each specified <i>bhadol</i> crop in acres.	Taking 10 annas to represent the average outturn, how many annas represented outturn last year?	Taking 10 annas to represent the average outturn, how many annas will represent this year's outturn?	Remarks by District Officer.	Remarks by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.
Burdwan	11,121,920	900,000	Bhadol paddy Indian-corn (maize) .. Other food-crops (e.g., vegetables). Non-food crops, e.g., jute, indigo, <i>bhadol</i> fil, grass, hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.	120,000 2,000 1,500 2,500	140,000 2,000 1,500 2,500	140,000 2,000 1,500 2,500	Annas. 8 10 10 10	Annas. 16 16 16 14	The distribution of rainfall was better this year—a better outturn is, therefore, expected.	
			Total ..	160,000	146,000	146,000	8	16		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
District.	Total area of district in acres.	Total area in district cultivated to the under cultivation in acres.	Names of bhadoi crops.	Approximate normal area under each specified bhadoi crop in acres.	Approximate area last year under each specified bhadoi crop in acres.	Estimated area this year under each specified bhadoi crop in acres.	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn, how many annas represented outturn last year?	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn, how many annas will represent this year's outturn?	Remarks by District Officer.	Remarks by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.
Boothly	11,600,000	702,240	Bhadoi paddy	86,000	45,000	60,000	10	14	Rainfall was sufficient, hence the increase in area and outturn.	
			Indian-corn (maize) ...	100	100	100	10	14		
			Other bhadoi cereals and bhadoi pulses.	3,100	2,700	2,700	9	11		
			Other food-crops (e.g., vegetables).	2,900	2,900	2,500	10	13		
			Non-food crops, e.g., jute, indigo, bhadoi oil, grass, hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.	20,100	21,100	20,000	12	13		
			Total	1,32,500	83,400	98,800	10	13		

24-Parganas ...	1,544,640	1,069,500	Bhadol paddy ...	163,799	142,800	103,600	15	16	The increase in area and in the estimated outturn under Bhadol paddy this year is due to favourable rainfall.
			Other Bhadol cereals and Bhadol pulses.	3,000	2,800	2,600	13	13	
			Other food-crops. (e.g., vegetables).	4,900	5,200	5,200	13	13	
			Non-food crops, e.g., jute, indigo, Bhadol fil, sesam, hemp, mulberry, &c.	42,000	41,500	40,800	14	13	
			Total ...	159,900	159,100	157,000	14	14	
Nadia	1,768,160	1,385,000	Bhadol paddy ...	339,000	289,600	331,700	6	13	The increase in area sown and the estimated outturn this year, is due to seasonable rainfall.
			Indian corn (maize)	1,000	300	100	6	10	
			Other Bhadol cereals and Bhadol pulses.	22,200	33,500	29,800	7	13	
			Other food-crops, (e.g., vegetables).	23,700	21,900	16,300	9	13	
			Non-food crops, e.g., jute, indigo, Bhadol fil, sesam, hemp, mulberry, &c.	101,900	111,700	71,800	8	13	
			Total ...	503,100	427,000	449,600	64	124	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
District	Total area of district in acres.	Total area in district estimated to be under cultivation in acres.	Names of <i>khaddi</i> crops.	Approximate normal area under each specified <i>khaddi</i> crop in acres.	Approximate area last year under each specified <i>khaddi</i> crop in acres.	Estimated area this year under each specified <i>khaddi</i> crop in acres.	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn, how many annas represented outturn last year?	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn, how many annas will represent this year's outturn?	Remarks by District Officer.	Remarks by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.
Mundak	1,373,100	803,500	<i>Khaddi</i> paddy ...	203,900	211,500	216,700	8	14	Increase in area and outturn is due to timely rain fall this year.	
			Indian-corn (maize) ...	200	200	200	8	13		
			Other <i>khaddi</i> cereals and <i>khaddi</i> pulses.	2,000	1,900	1,900	8	13		
			Other food-crops, (e.g., vegetables).	13,700	7,500	7,900	11	13		
			Non-food crops, e.g., jute, indigo, <i>khaddi</i> fig, sugarcane, mulberry, &c. &c.	94,900	79,600	80,000	9	11		
			Total ...	203,100	300,700	307,300	84	13		

...	1,572,908	1,115,800	Bhadol paddy	...	34,480	314,000	323,280	7	15	
			Other Bhadosi cereals and Bhadosi pulses.		8,500	8,400	8,400	7	10	The decrease in area under non-food crops is due to the fact that in the Narail subdivision, last year's drought and absence of flood tempted people to grow rice on a larger area than usual.
			Other food-crops (e.g., vegetables).		12,800	16,600	16,800	19	15	On high land the jute crop was not grown for want of seasonable rain. The land was subsequently sown with Bhadosi paddy. The outturn is better than that of last year, as the result of seasonable rain. Some injury has been done by insects in Narail and Bongom subdivisions.
			Non-food crops (e.g., jute, indigo, Bhadosi fit, sawa hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.)		61,400	60,600	46,800	13	15	
			Total		403,400	395,600	337,200	8	16	
		870,000	Bhadol paddy		56,400	62,600	61,000	12 1/2	15	Increase in the area cultivated under Bhadosi paddy was due to the desire to get an early food crop.
	2,102,922		Other Bhadosi cereals and Bhadosi pulses.		3,300	3,300	3,300	16	16	A fourteen anna crop may be expected generally, but in the Basirhat subdivision, the crop is expected to be 10 annas.
			Other food-crops (e.g., vegetables).							
			Non-food crops (e.g., jute, indigo, Bhadosi fit, sawa hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.)		29,800	28,600	25,400	11 1/2	13	
			Total		89,400	84,400	80,600	13	14 1/2	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
District.	Total area of district in acres.	Total area in district cultivated in acres.	Names of <i>bhadai</i> crops.	Approximate normal area under each specified <i>bhadai</i> crop in acres.	Approximate area last year under each specified <i>bhadai</i> crop in acres.	Estimated area this year under each specified <i>bhadai</i> crop in acres.	Taking 10 annas to represent the average outturn, how many annas represented outturn last year?	Taking 10 annas to represent the average outturn, how many annas will represent this year's outturn?	Remarks by District Officer.	Remarks by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.
Raishahi	1,050,365	1,317,025	Bhadai paddy	119,800	119,000	133,300	Annas 6	Annas 14	(a) Increase is due to the change of jurisdiction in the district. (b) Increase is due to the favourable rainfall.	
			Other food-crops, (e.g., vegetables).	(a) 1,000	1,100	(b) 1,300	13	14		
			Non-food crops, (e.g., jute, indigo, <i>bhadai</i> til, sesam, hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.)	111,700	88,400	98,600	84	121		
			Total	231,400	208,500	233,400	7	131		
			Bhadai paddy	(a) 120,000	128,000	(b) 135,000	8	(c) 13		
Dinaipur	1,335,080	1,803,000	Jowar	7,000	7,000	7,000	10	12	(a) Decrease of normal area against <i>bhadai</i> paddy due to transfer of thana Mahadevpur to Raishahi. (b) Increase of area sown with <i>bhadai</i> paddy due to the lowness of stocks, for which the people sowed <i>bhadai</i> more for getting an early return. (c) The outturn in Bhakurunge is estimated at 16 annas, not so good in the rest of the district. (d) Owing to the lowness of food stocks, <i>bhadai</i> rice was to some extent sown in place of jute.	
			Bajra	7,000	7,000	7,000	6	16		
			Mandua (or <i>marua</i> or <i>ragi</i>).	100	100	100	8	13		
			Other food-crops (e.g., vegetables).	98,000	99,800	(d) 90,000	10	16		
			Non-food crops, (e.g., jute, indigo, <i>bhadai</i> til, sesam, hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.)							
			Total	228,100	231,900	230,100	84	144		

Jalpaiguri	1,594,000	1,004,200	Bladoi paddy Indian corn (maize) Other Bladoi cereals and Bladoi pulses. Other food-crops (e.g., vegetables). Non-food crops (e.g., jute, indigo, Bladoi til, susa hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.)	2,03,500 3,000 4,400 5,200 87,100	156,700 2,000 4,300 5,100 53,400	196,900 2,500 4,500 5,100 91,600	7 2 7 7 10	15 15 1/2 15 1/2 15 15	The outturn is better this year owing to the favourable rainfall. The outturn of Bladoi paddy is reported to be 17 annas in Alipur, 15 annas in Manikguri, 14 annas in Baikunapur, 13 annas in Chakraspate, and 12 annas in Chakraspate. The Manager says the outturn will be 15 annas owing to the in- sufficient rainfall in July.
			Total	303,500	256,500	300,400	8	14	
Darjeeling	744,000	159,400	Bladoi paddy Mandua (or marua or rugai) Indian corn (maize)	7,000 7,700 17,700	7,000 7,700 17,700	8,300 8,700 22,300	9 11 10	16 13 20	The Settlement Officer in the course of the late settlement proceedings obtained definite information under these head- ings in the year which is now furnished in the place of previ- ous heads founded on guess- work. I reaped the rice crop at 16 annas and the maize crop at 50 annas from my own obser- vation.
			Other food-crops (e.g., vege- tables).	4,500	4,500	4,500	11	14	
			Non-food crops, e.g., jute, indigo, Bladoi til, susa hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.	2,500	2,500	2,300	11	18	
			Total	39,400	39,400	42,900	9 1/2	18	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
DISTRICT.	Total area of district in acres.	Total area in district estimated to be under cultivation in acres.	Names of <i>bhadol</i> crops.	Approximate normal area under each specified <i>bhadol</i> crop in acres.	Approximate area last year under each specified <i>bhadol</i> crop in acres.	Estimated area this year under each specified <i>bhadol</i> crop in acres.	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn, how many annas represented out-turn last year?	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn, how many annas will represent this year's outturn?	Remarks by District Officer.	Remarks by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.
Rangpur	2,221,040	1,692,700	<i>Bhadol</i> paddy Indian-corn (maize) Other <i>bhadol</i> cereals and <i>bhadol</i> pulses. Other food-crops, (<i>c. d.</i> , vegetables). Non-food crops, (<i>c. d.</i> , jute, indigo, <i>bhadol</i> fil, <i>gusa</i> hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.) Total	275,400 100 91,000 23,700 224,000 684,200	260,800 100 91,000 23,700 233,800 609,400	310,800 200 91,000 23,900 240,000 665,900	Annas. 11 12 13 16 16 12	Annas. 16 14 14 16 14 15	Owing to the high price of food-grains, the people sowed paddy on a more extensive scale, hence the increase of the area. The average outturn of <i>bhadol</i> paddy is expected to be good owing to the timely rainfall. Fourteen anna outturn is expected on the whole as slight damage has been wrought by the recent earthquake.	
Bara	920,850	600,000	<i>Bhadol</i> paddy Non-food crops, (<i>c. d.</i> , jute, indigo, <i>bhadol</i> fil, <i>gusa</i> hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.) Total	75,700 140,000 175,000	105,000 100,000 205,000	90,000 85,000 175,000	12 10 11	10 16 13	Want of sufficient rain in June and July injured the crops and affected the outturn.	

Pabna	Bhadol paddy	862,890	1,176,960	125,200	120,000	137,800	12	13	<p>It is supposed that one-eighth of last year's area under jute has been transferred by the cultivators to the cultivation of <i>bhadol</i> paddy with a view to get early food crop in the year of scarcity. Hence the area shown in column 7 is greater than last year. Rain in June and July caused the outturn to be better. Jute has grown well though the price is low.</p>
	Other <i>bhadol</i> cereals and <i>bhadol</i> pulses.			50,000	50,000	80,000	8	17	
	Other food-crops (<i>e.g.</i> , vegetables).			108,000	108,000	108,000	9	13	
	Non-food crops, <i>e.g.</i> , jute, indigo, <i>bhadol</i> <i>til</i> , <i>sans</i> , hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.			312,800	188,800	188,800	12	17	
	Total			490,500	466,800	438,600	103	144	
Dacca	Bhadol paddy	997,700	1,780,480	242,000	108,000	219,500	123	154	<p>Owing to the timely rainfall, the outturn is expected to be better than that of last year.</p>
	Other <i>bhadol</i> cereals and <i>bhadol</i> pulses.			1,000	300	100	8	12	
	Other food-crops (<i>e.g.</i> , vegetables).			43,300	43,200	43,100	121	131	
	Non-food crops, <i>e.g.</i> , jute, indigo, <i>bhadol</i> <i>til</i> , <i>sans</i> , hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.			254,300	172,400	198,700	104	133	
	Total			541,500	323,900	461,300	13	141	
Mymensingh	Bhadol paddy	2,405,700	4,052,450	500,400	353,600	353,600	11	16	<p>Decrease of area under non-food crops is due to the fact that a portion of the land used for sowing jute in the previous year has been sown with paddy. Outturn expected to be better than last year for timely rainfall.</p>
	Other <i>bhadol</i> cereals and <i>bhadol</i> pulses.			58,000	58,000	58,900		13	
	Other food-crops (<i>e.g.</i> , vegetables).			41,600	36,500	36,500		14	
	Non-food crops, <i>e.g.</i> , jute, indigo, <i>bhadol</i> <i>til</i> , <i>sans</i> , hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.			277,100	562,100	553,100	11	14	
	Total			1,057,500	1,011,100	1,005,100	11	141	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
District.	Total area of districts in acres.	Total area in districts estimated to be under cultivation in acres.	Names of <i>bhadol</i> crops.	Approximate normal area under each specified <i>bhadol</i> crop in acres.	Approximate area last year under each specified <i>bhadol</i> crop in acres.	Estimated area this year under each specified <i>bhadol</i> crop in acres.	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn, how many annas represented out-turn last year?	Taking 16 annas to represent the average outturn, how many annas will represent this year's outturn?	Remarks by District Officer.	Remarks by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.
Faridpur	1,400,460	1,007,500	<i>Bhadol</i> paddy	...	245,000	207,000	13	14	Increase in area, and outturn is due to the timely rainfall.	
			Other <i>bhadol</i> cereals and <i>bhadol</i> pulses.	...	100	100	16	16		
			Other food-crops, (e.g., vegetables).	...	200	500	16	16		
			Non-food crops, e.g., jute, indigo, <i>bhadol</i> flax, <i>assam</i> hemp, mulberry &c., &c.	...	57,500	66,800	14	18		
			Total	...	425,000	387,400	12½	15		
Backergunge.	2,335,360	1,343,300	<i>Bhadol</i> paddy	...	233,500	235,500	12½	16	Good outturn expected owing to favourable climate.	
			Non-food crops, e.g., jute, indigo, <i>bhadol</i> flax, <i>assam</i> hemp, mulberry, &c., &c.	...	6,400	6,400	10	10		
			Total	...	239,900	239,900	12½	16		